viz SELECT

Manga by Kagami Yoshimizu

8

Lucky☆Star

Lucky☆Star

Kagami Yoshimizu

8

Have a good time reading and go back to your work with new energy!

YOSHIMIZU

special 1

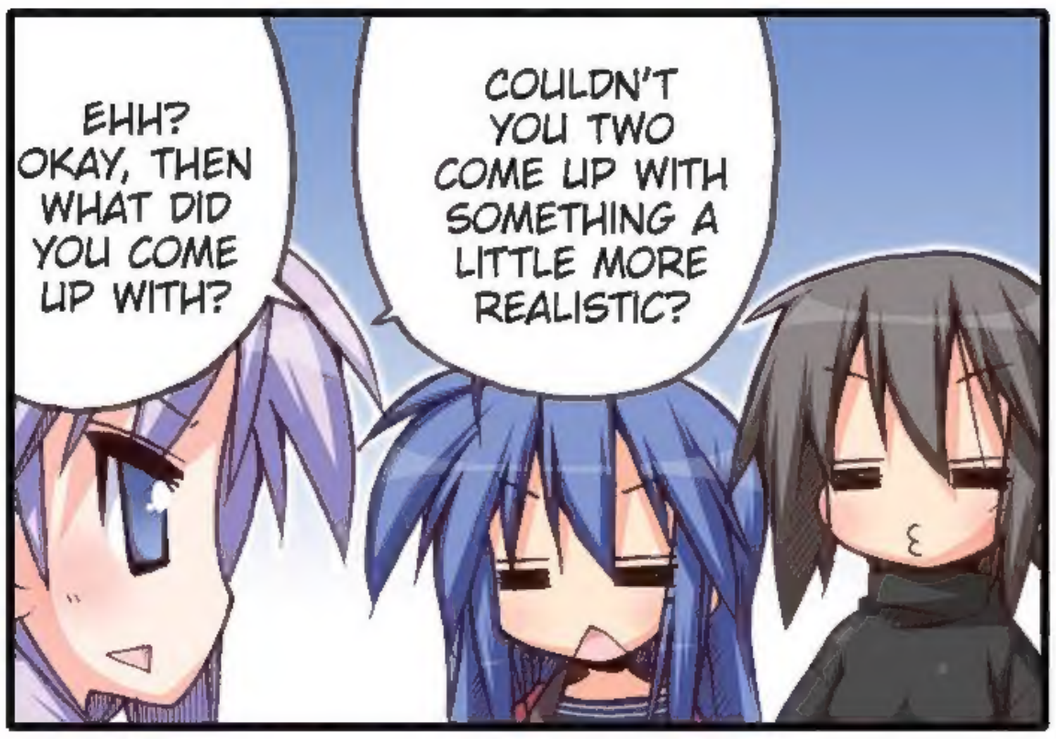
this year, same as always

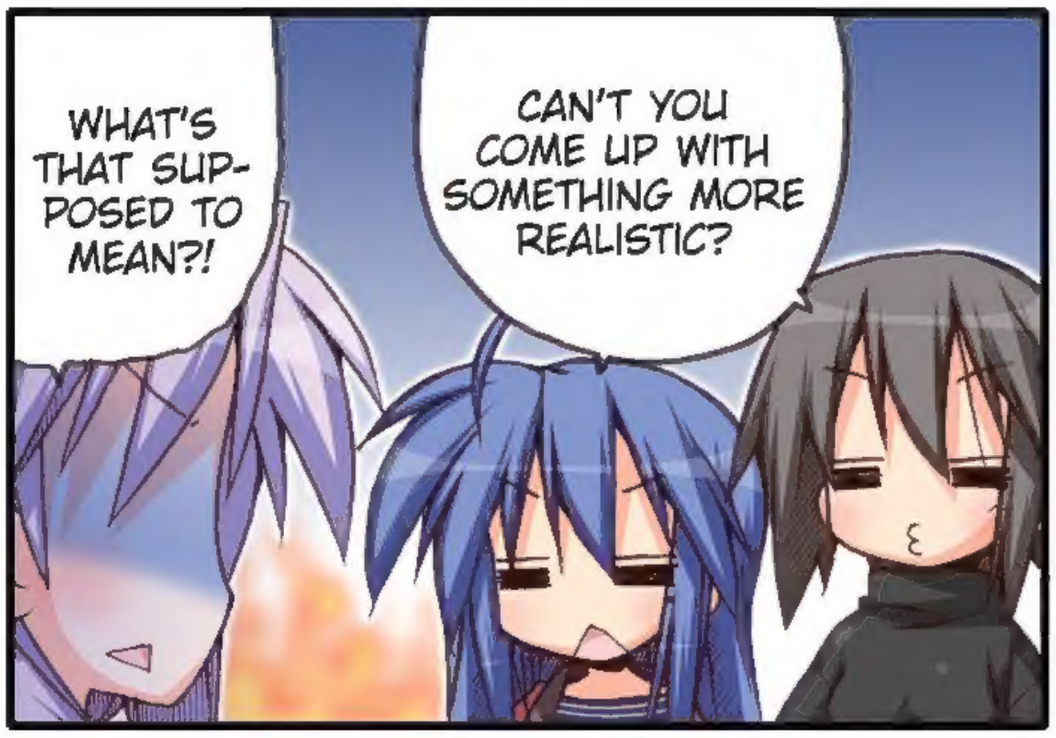
unnecessary concerns

I'LL BET THE KARAOKE PLACES AND THE LIKE WILL BE CROWDED.
NOW, WHAT'LL WE DO NEXT?
ON THE WAY BACK FROM NEW YEAR'S TEMPLE VISIT.
HMM... BUT, YOU KNOW...
THEN HOW ABOUT WE DO SOMETHING AT MY PLACE?
If you all have nothing better to do,
REALLY ...?
That makes sense.
HEY, IT'S COOL! DAD ISN'T EVEN HOME TODAY.
So don't worry about that!
DON'T SWEAT IT. I KNOW ALL THAT.
What's with the added comment?
PA-HA
WAIT!! ALL I WAS WORRIED ABOUT WAS WHETHER WE'D BE A BOTHER BARGING IN LIKE THAT!
I wasn't even thinking about your father or anything!!

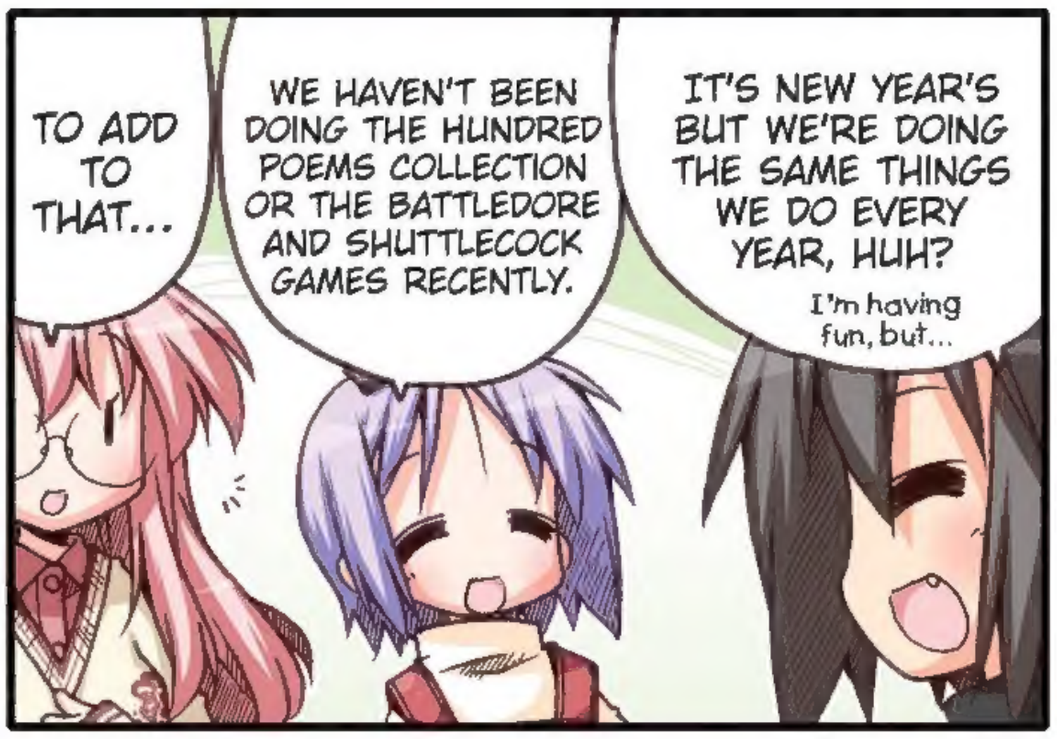
• Lucky ☆ Star and The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya Huge Fun BON, January 1, 2009

dream stories

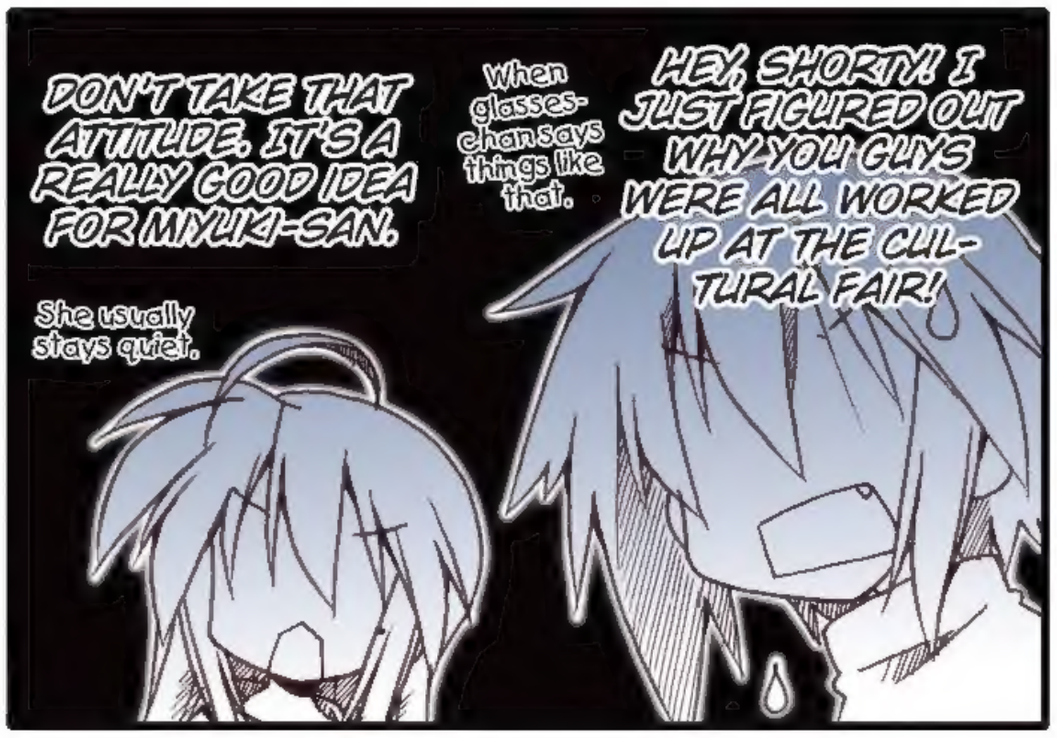




the great idea


TO ADD TO THAT...
WE HAVEN'T BEEN DOING THE HUNDRED POEMS COLLECTION OR THE BATTLEDORE AND SHUTTLECOCK GAMES RECENTLY.
IT'S NEW YEAR'S BUT WE'RE DOING THE SAME THINGS WE DO EVERY YEAR, HUH?
I'm having fun, but...

We can use brush pens. They're easy to use!
HOW ABOUT WE MAKE NEW YEAR'S CALLIGRAPHY OF OUR RESOLUTIONS?
THEY SAY, "ONE'S PLANS FOR THE NEW YEAR MUST BE SIMPLE PLANS."


DON'T TAKE THAT ATTITUDE. IT'S A REALLY GOOD IDEA FOR MIYUKI-SAN.
When glasses-chan says things like that.
HEY, SHORTY! I JUST FIGURED OUT WHY YOU GUYS WERE ALL WORKED UP AT THE CULTURAL FAIR!
She usually stays quiet.

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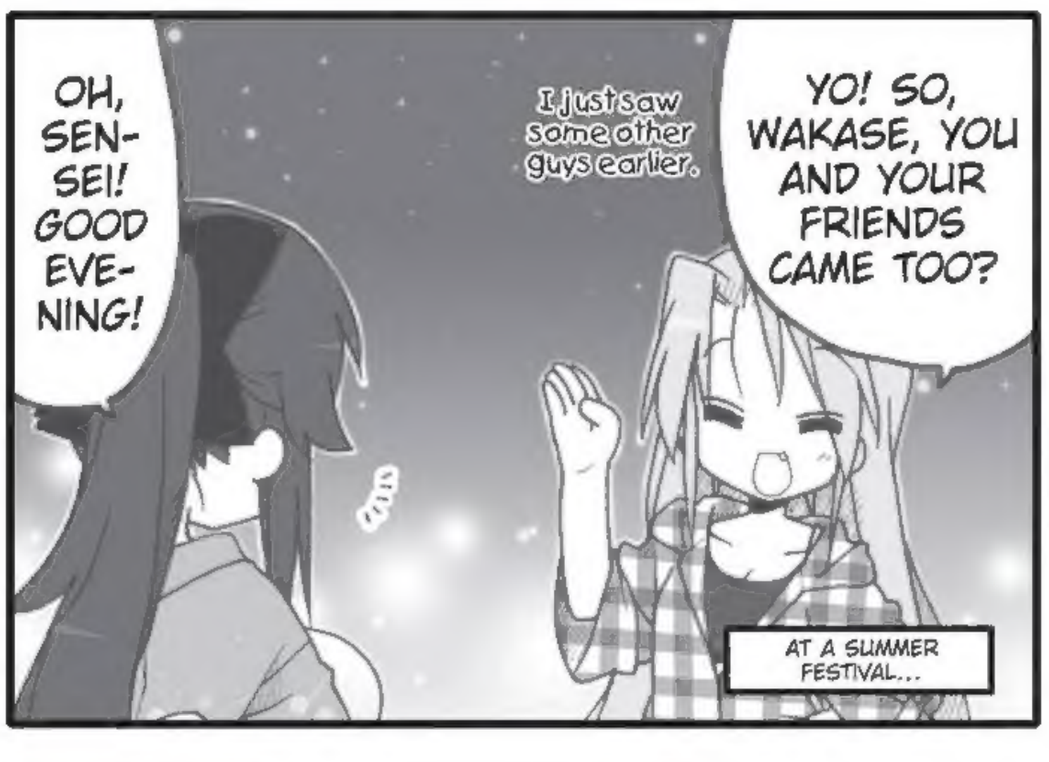
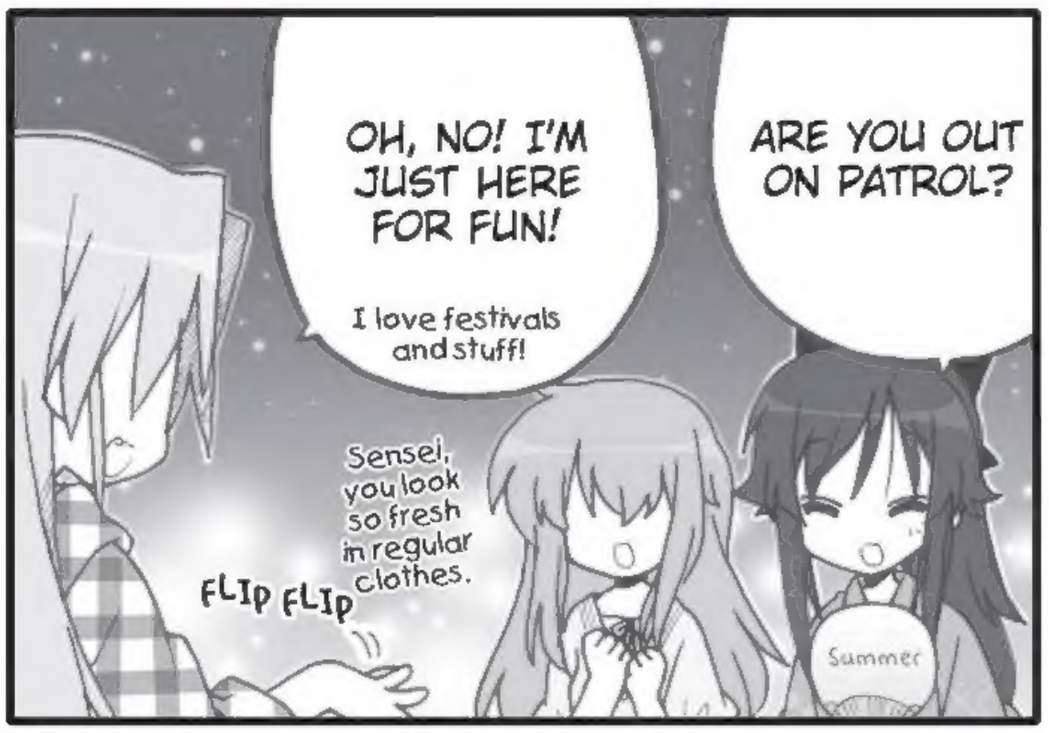
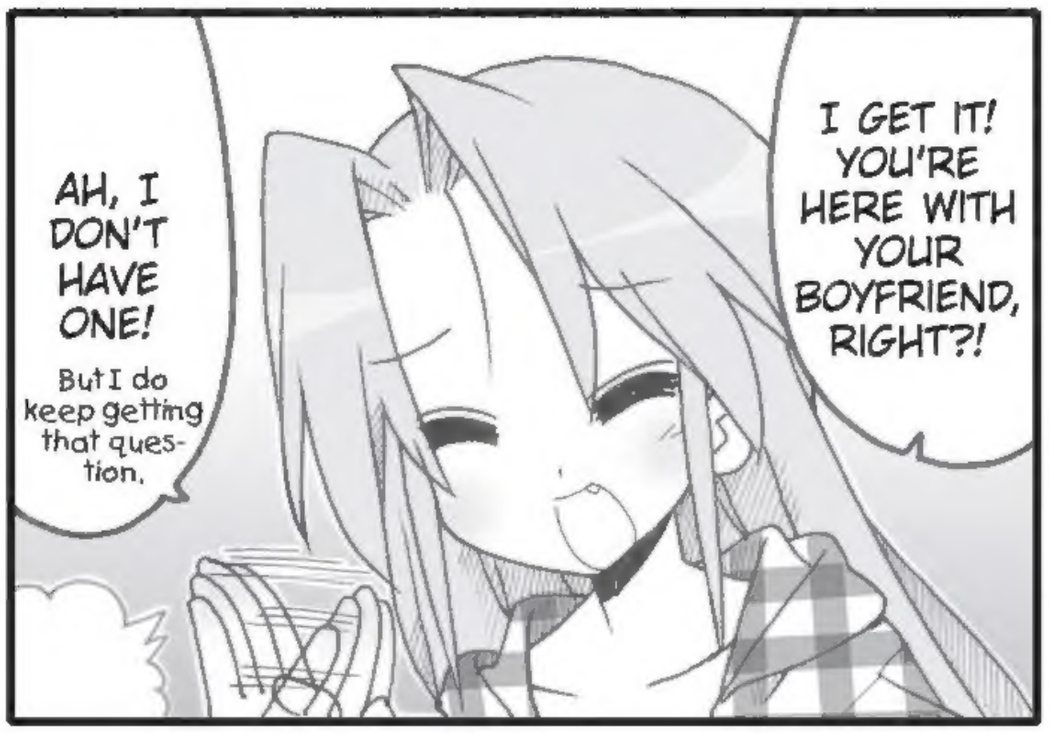
another height reached




OH, NO! I'M JUST HERE FOR FUN!
I love festivals and stuff!
ARE YOU OUT ON PATROL?
Sensei, you look so fresh in regular clothes.
FLIP FLIP
Summer

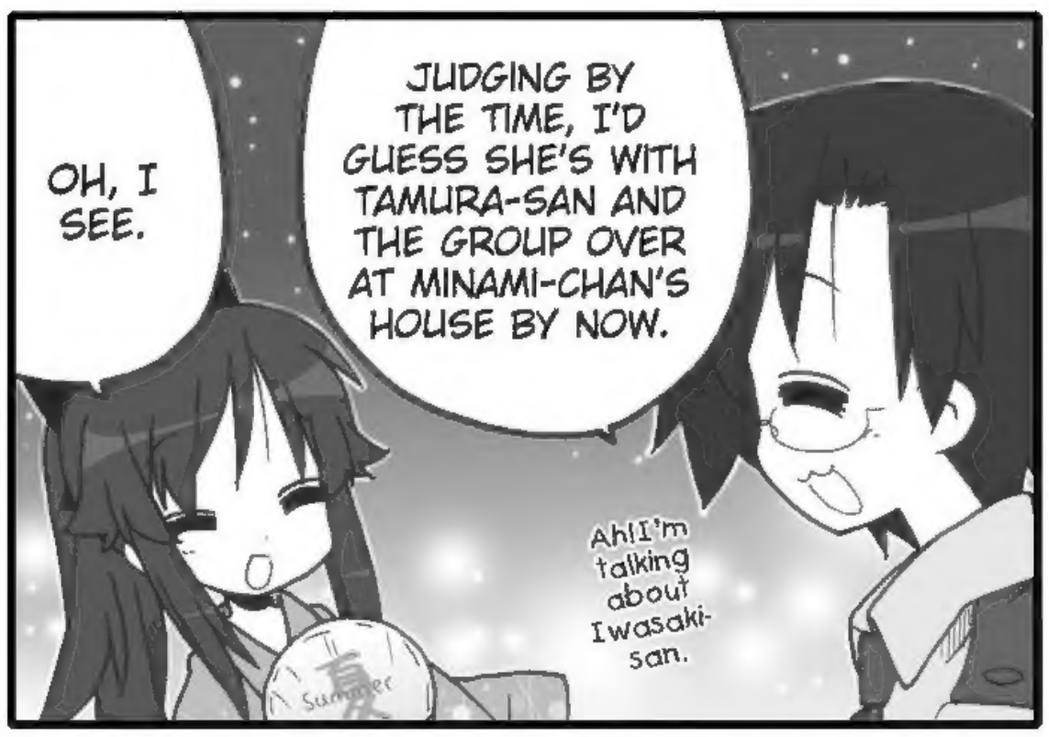


Everybody lives so far away...
SINCE I'M ALWAYS HANGING OUT BY MYSELF, IT SEEMS IT'S MAKING ME LOOK LONELY, HUH?
MAYBE A BOYFRIEND IS THE LEAST OF MY WORRIES!
The students and everybody else come in groups.

meanwhile

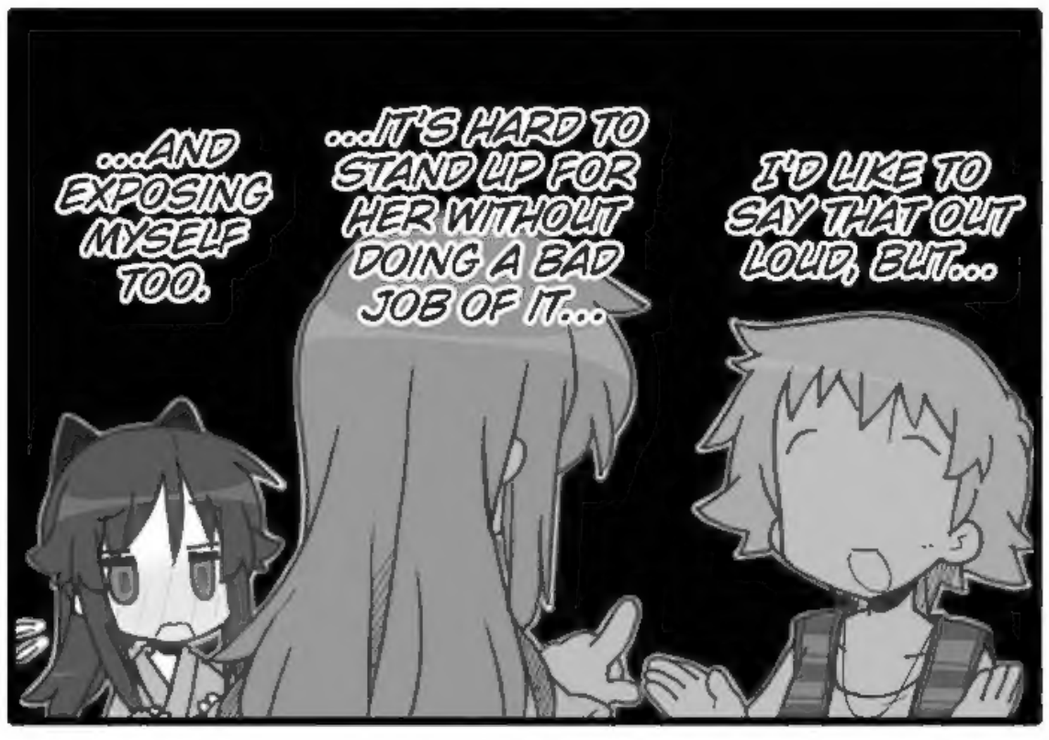
• Comp Ace, December 2009 issue

character

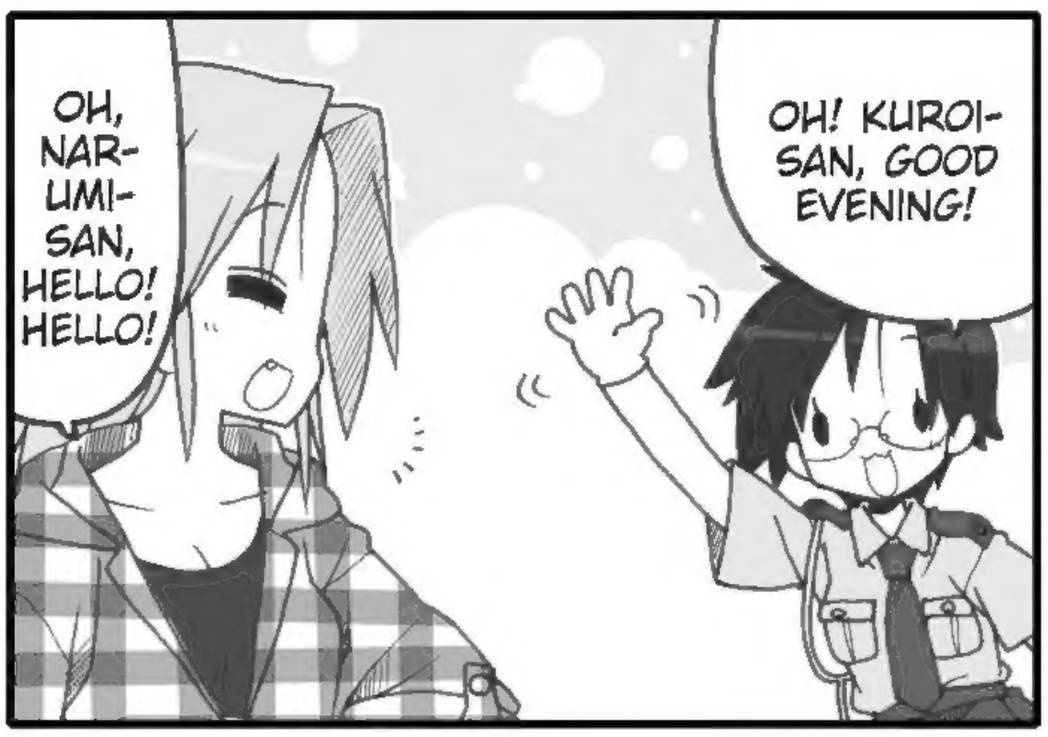

OH, I SEE.
JUDGING BY THE TIME, I'D GUESS SHE'S WITH TAMURA-SAN AND THE GROUP OVER AT MINAMI-CHAN'S HOUSE BY NOW.
Ah! I'm talking about Iwasaki-san.
Summer

AH, YOU'D THINK THAT, HUH?
They were friends before you got here, huh? Pa-san?
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S A LITTLE ODD FOR SUCH AN OTAKU TO BE FRIENDS WITH TWO ACCOMPLISHED STUDENTS?
OH, THINKING OF TAMURA-SAN...

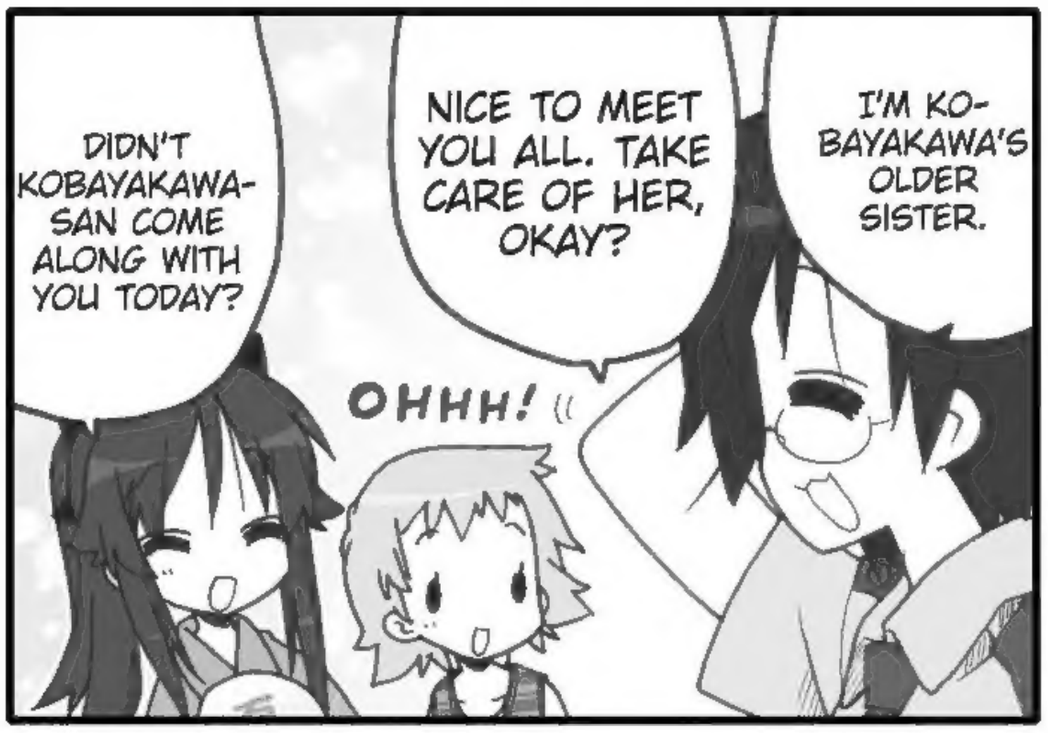
"OTAKU" IS A JUST MATTER OF HOBBIES AND TASTES. BUT WHEN YOU LOOK AT TAMURA-SAN, YOU GET THE IMPRESSION OF A GENTLE, NICE PERSON, RIGHT?
IT'S TRUE THAT "OTAKU" IS HEAVILY TIED INTO UNUSUAL PERSONALITY TRAITS, AND IF YOU CONCENTRATE ONLY ON THAT, IT CREATES A SUBLIMINAL PERCEPTION...
PANIC
PANIC

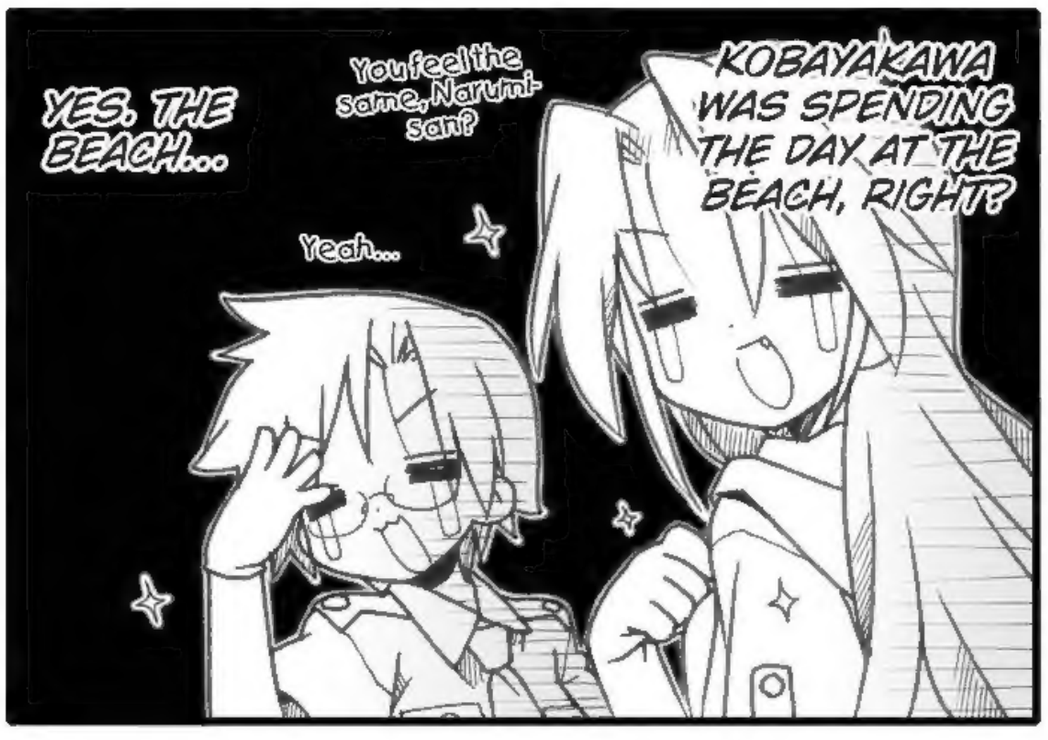


that one and this one

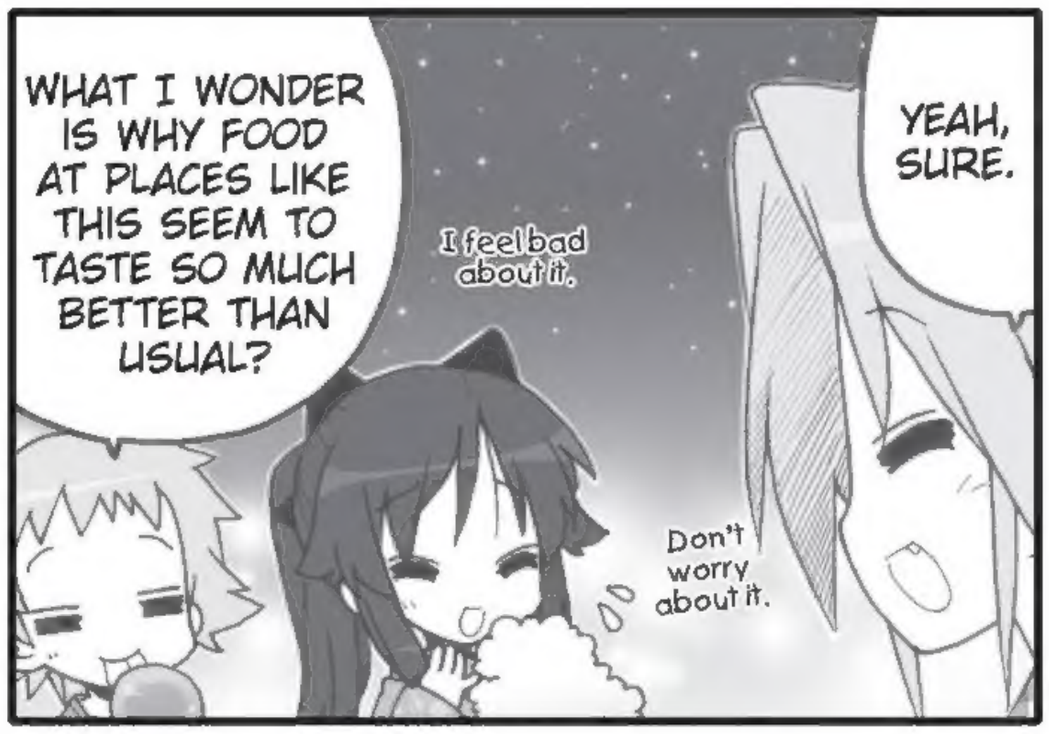


NOT AT ALL! SHE'S SUCH A GOOD GIRL, SHE ALWAYS HELPS ME OUT!
The opposite of Izumi.
I HEAR THAT YUTAKA IS NOW MAKING TROUBLE IN YOUR HOME ROOM!
Ah! Is this someone you know?


DIDN'T KOBAYAKAWA-SAN COME ALONG WITH YOU TODAY?
NICE TO MEET YOU ALL. TAKE CARE OF HER, OKAY?
I'M KOBAYAKAWA'S OLDER SISTER.
OHHH!

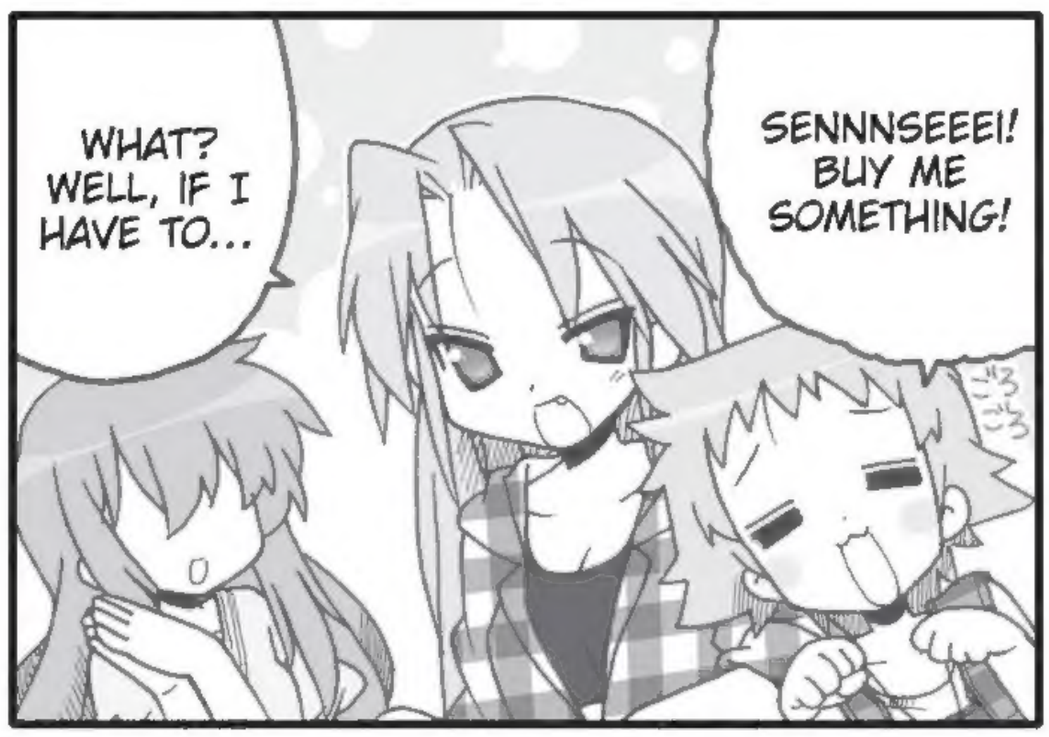


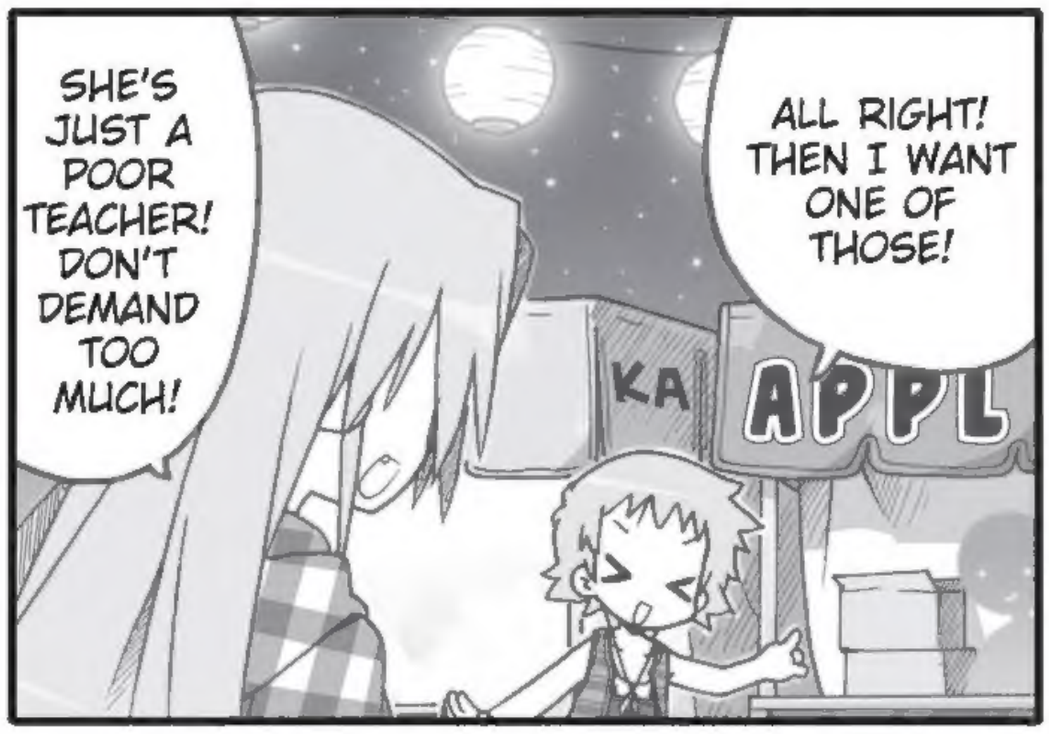
thinking routine

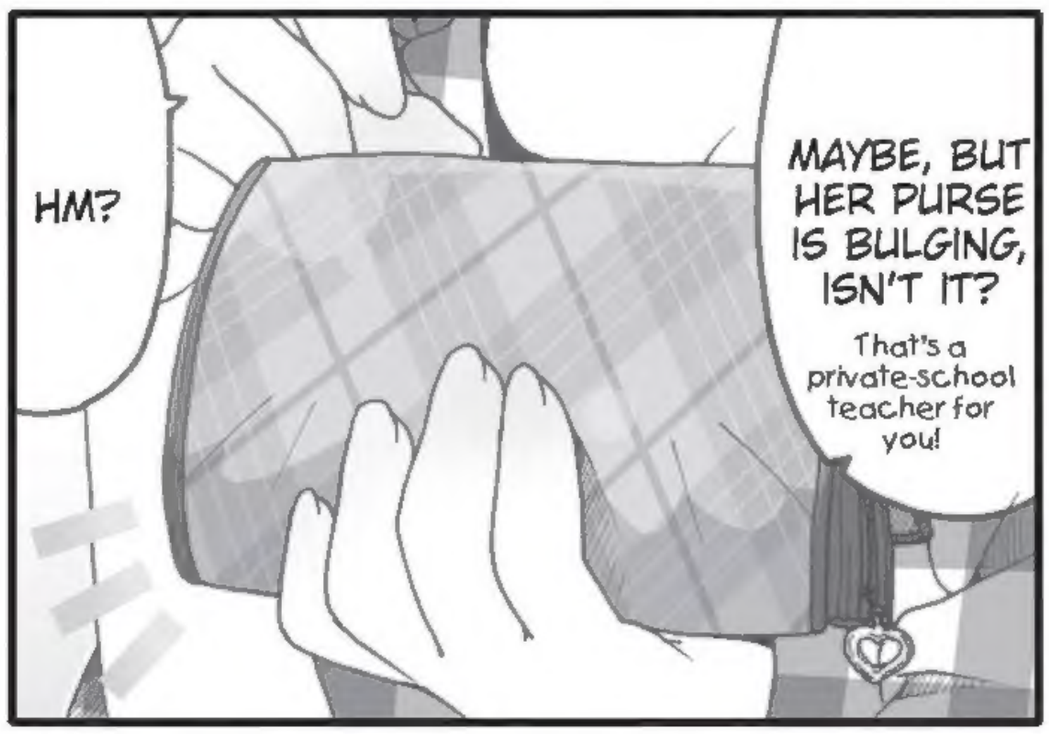

WHAT I WONDER IS WHY FOOD AT PLACES LIKE THIS SEEM TO TASTE SO MUCH BETTER THAN USUAL?
I feel bad about it.
Don't worry about it.
YEAH, SURE.

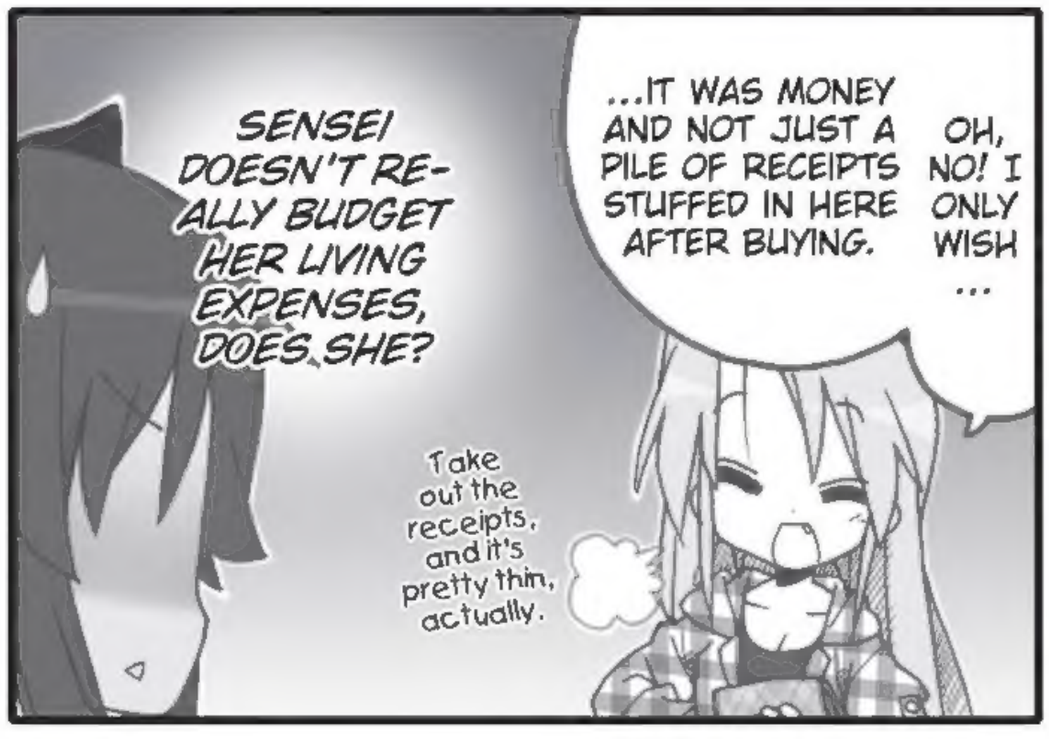
IS IT BECAUSE I LACK HER KIND OF PEOPLE-CENTRIC THINKING, OR DOES MY OTAKUISM STICK ME IN A MENTAL RUT? I WONDER...
I WAS THINKING THAT IS WAS BECAUSE, IT'S SORT OF, "A LIMITED-TIME OFFER."
I'm glad I didn't finish my sentence!

cause





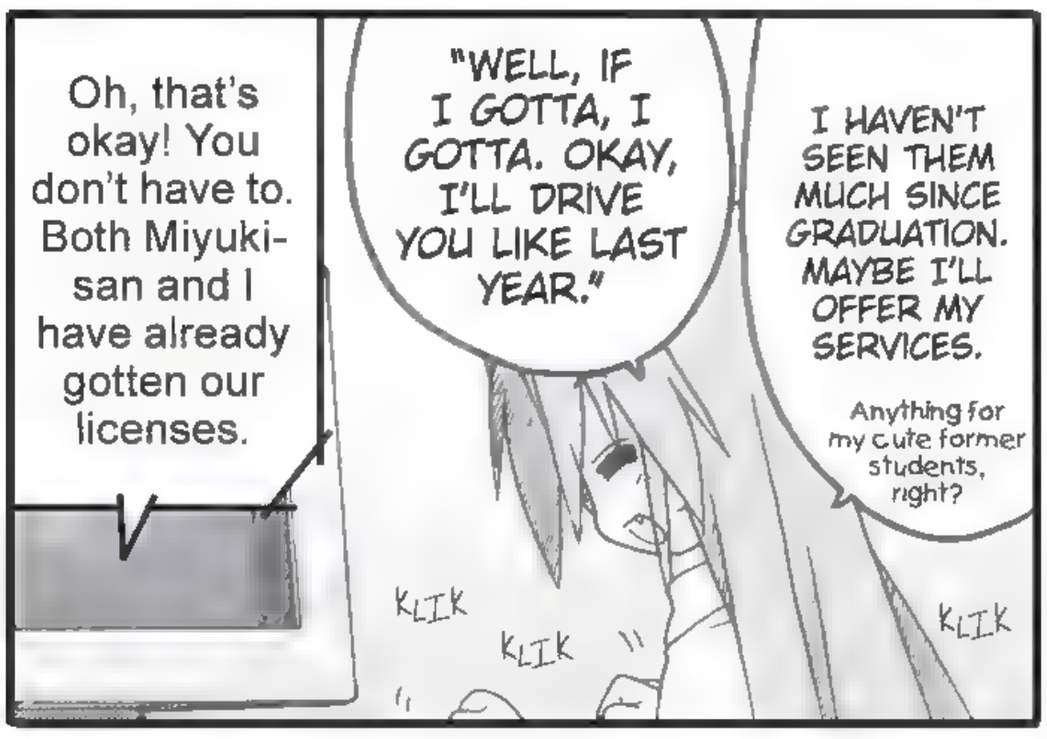


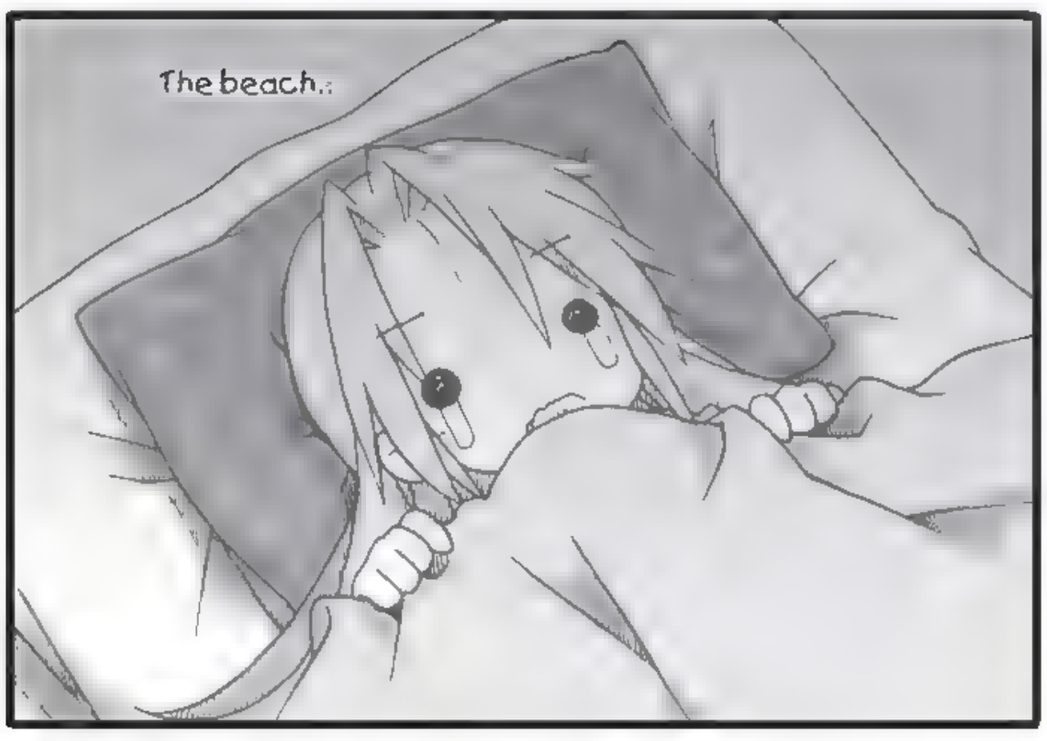

SENSEI DOESN'T REALLY BUDGET HER LIVING EXPENSES, DOES SHE?
...IT WAS MONEY AND NOT JUST A PILE OF RECEIPTS STUFFED IN HERE AFTER BUYING.
OH, NO! I ONLY WISH ...
Take out the receipts, and it's pretty thin, actually.

KonataIzumi

episode 219
various battles

the age

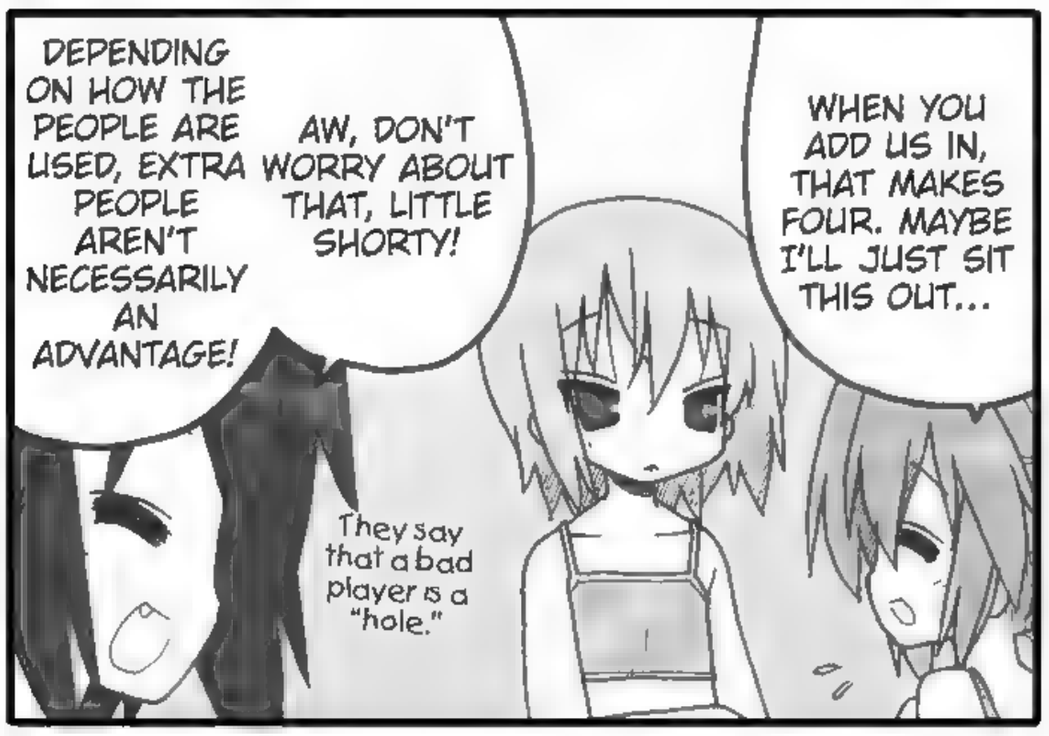

Oh, that's okay! You don't have to. Both Miyuki-san and I have already gotten our licenses.
"WELL, IF I GOTTA, I GOTTA. OKAY, I'LL DRIVE YOU LIKE LAST YEAR."
I HAVEN'T SEEN THEM MUCH SINCE GRADUATION. MAYBE I'LL OFFER MY SERVICES.
Anything for my cute former students, right?
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK



• Comptiq, November 2009 issue

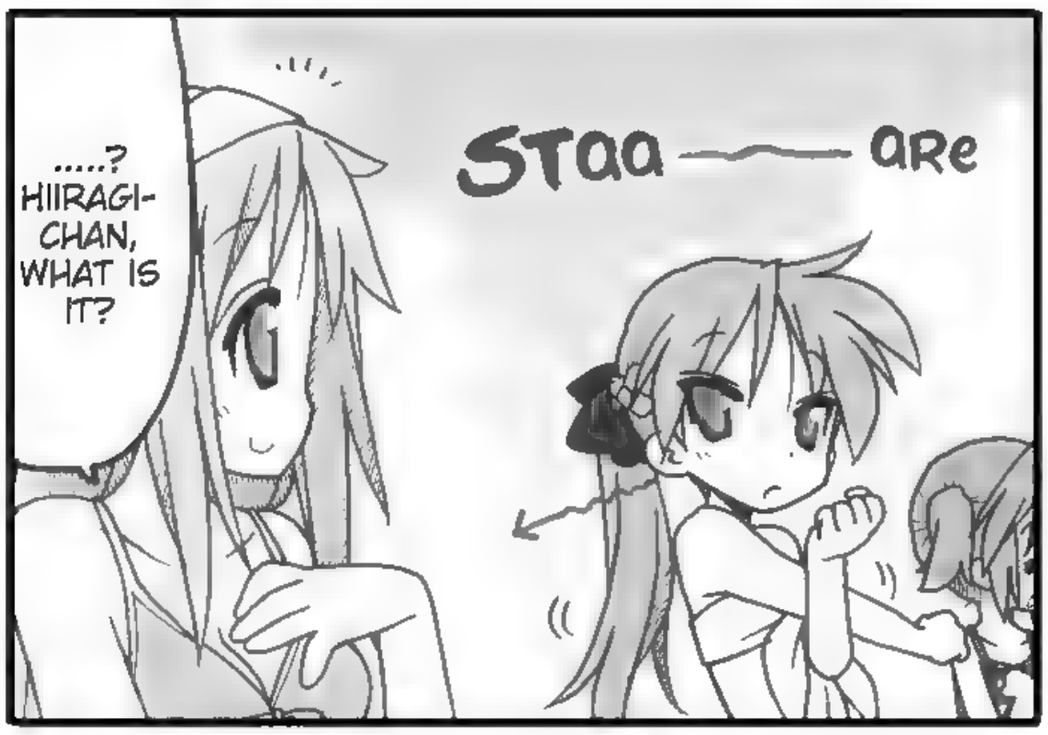
battle strength

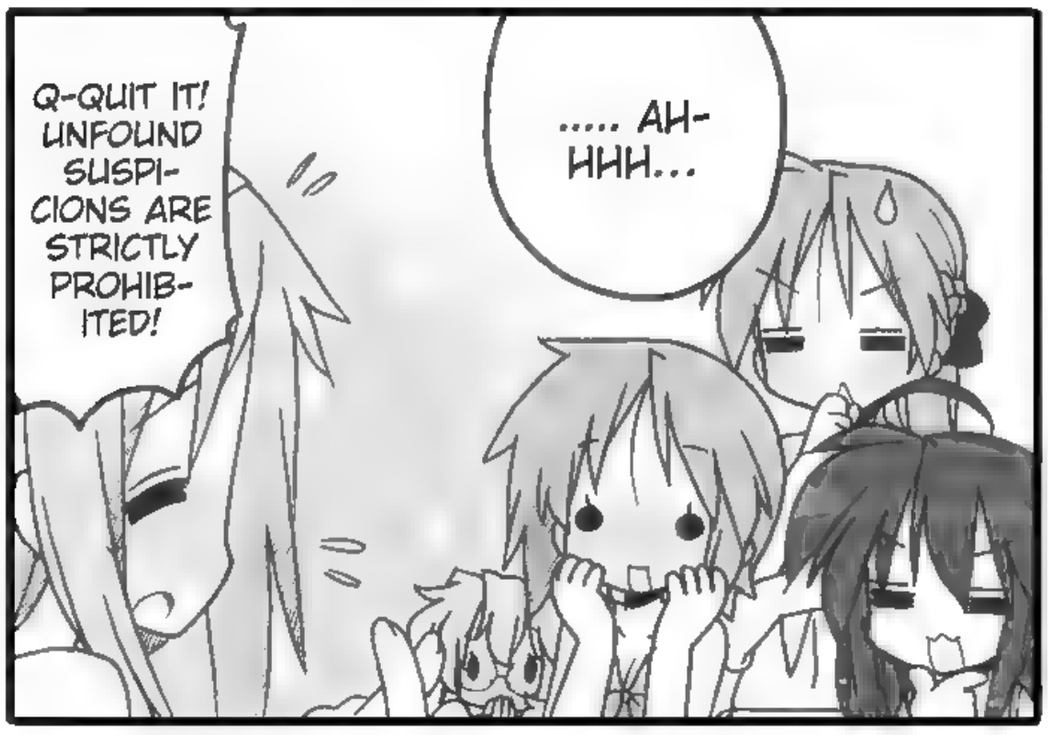
OH, HO! I THINK WE'LL JUST TAKE THAT CHAL-LENGE!
We don't have a net or anything, so the rules are whatever feels right.
LET'S PLAY BEACH VOL-LEYBALL! FORMER CLASS MATES AGAINST FORMER CLASS MATES!


DEPENDING ON HOW THE PEOPLE ARE USED, EXTRA PEOPLE AREN'T NECESSARILY AN ADVANTAGE!
AW, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT, LITTLE SHORTY!
They say that a bad player is a "hole."
WHEN YOU ADD US IN, THAT MAKES FOUR. MAYBE I'LL JUST SIT THIS OUT...

WE GOT BEATEN TO A PULP BY ONE PERSON! LITTLE MISS COOL OVER THERE!
WELL, WHAT I SAID WAS TRUE!!
We just lost big-time.
Who is she any-way?
WASN'T IT YOU...WHO WAS SAYING SOMETHING ABOUT HOW EXTRA PEOPLE ISN'T AN ADVANTAGE ...?

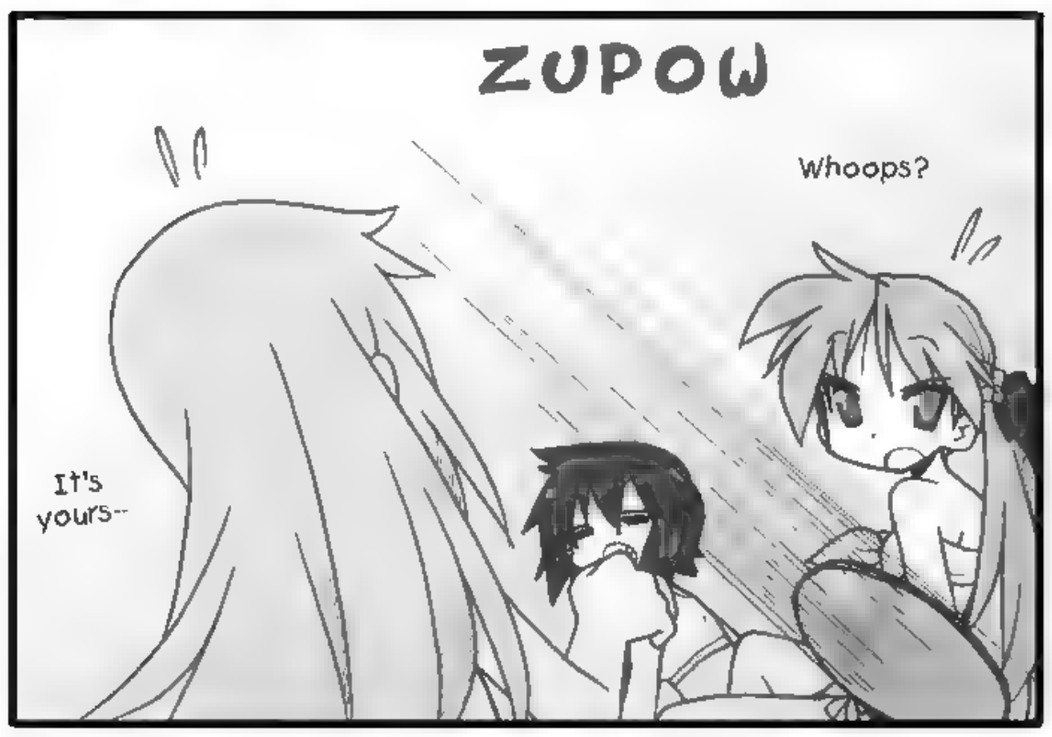
primary factor

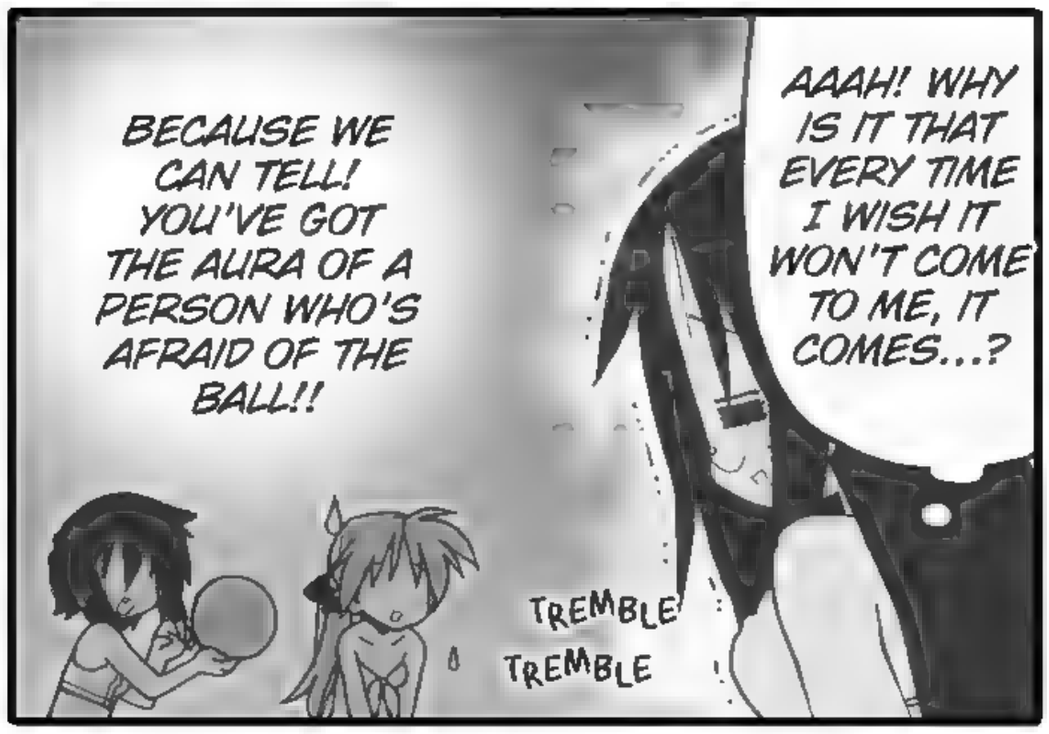


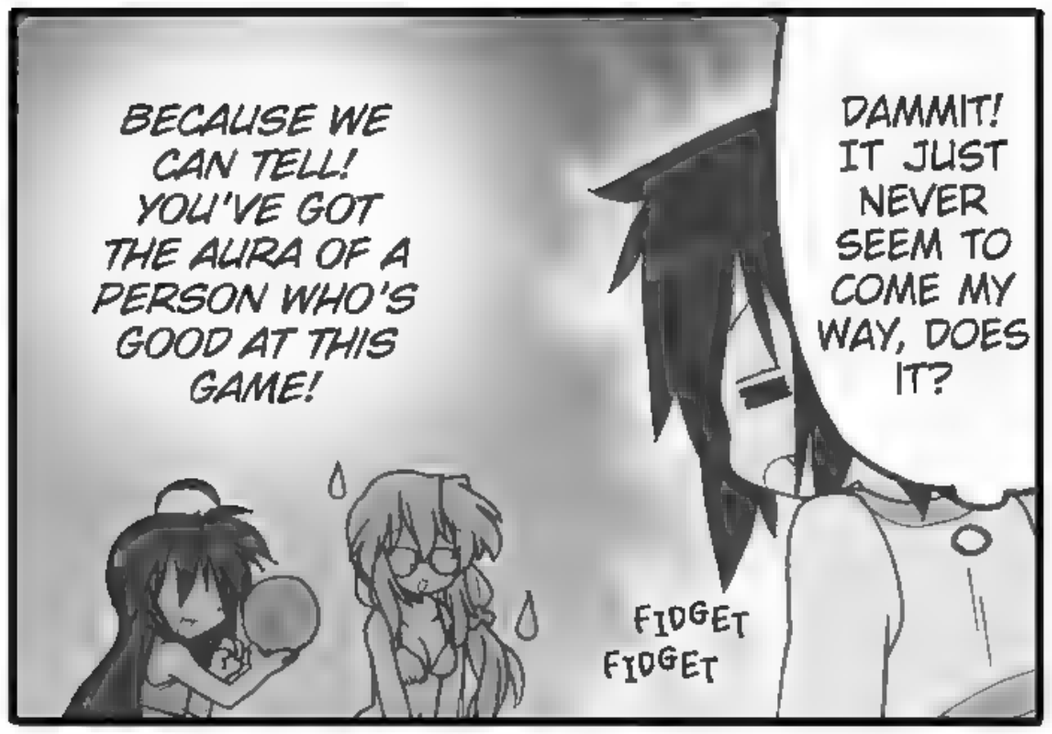


safe ground

dangerous ground




BECAUSE WE CAN TELL! YOU'VE GOT THE AURA OF A PERSON WHO'S AFRAID OF THE BALL!!
AAAH! WHY IS IT THAT EVERY TIME I WISH IT WON'T COME TO ME, IT COMES...?
TREMBLE
TREMBLE


BECAUSE WE CAN TELL! YOU'VE GOT THE AURA OF A PERSON WHO'S GOOD AT THIS GAME!
DAMMIT! IT JUST NEVER SEEM TO COME MY WAY, DOES IT?
FIDGET
FIDGET

Tsukasa Hiiragi

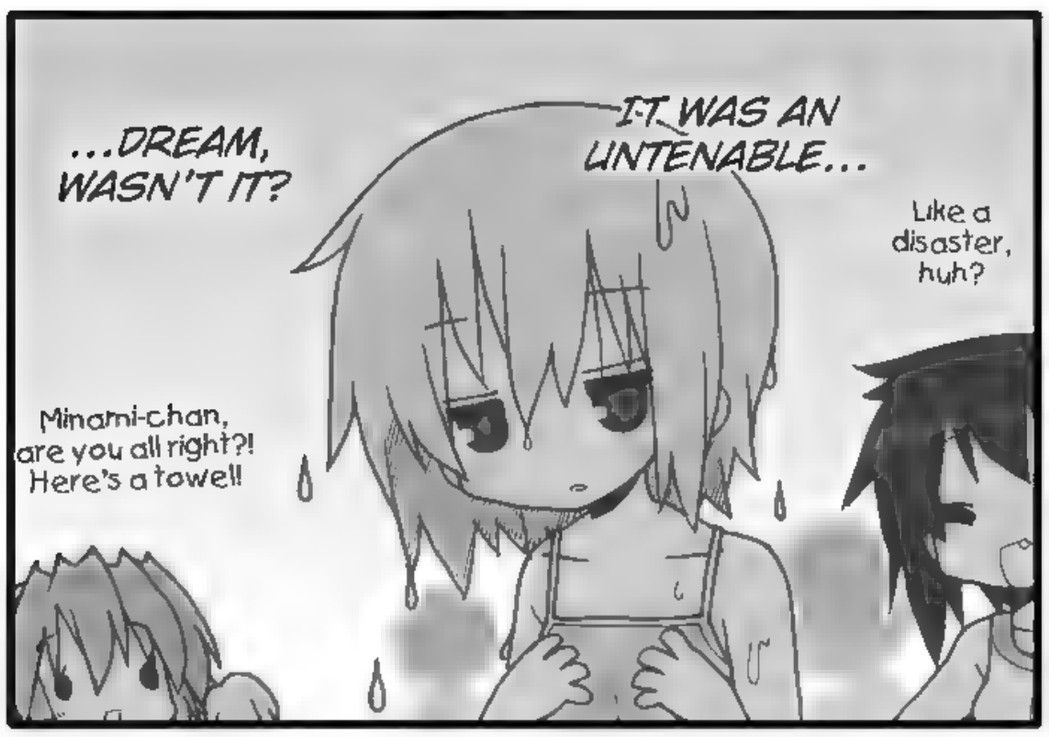
episode 220
Summer Attack

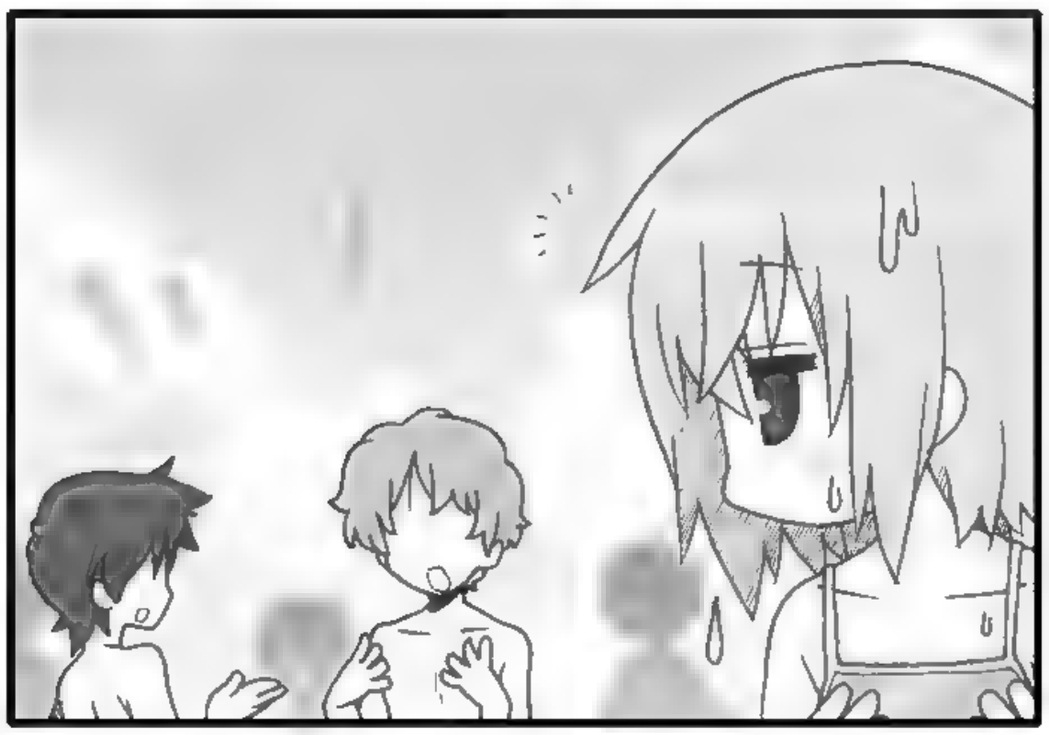
chemistry

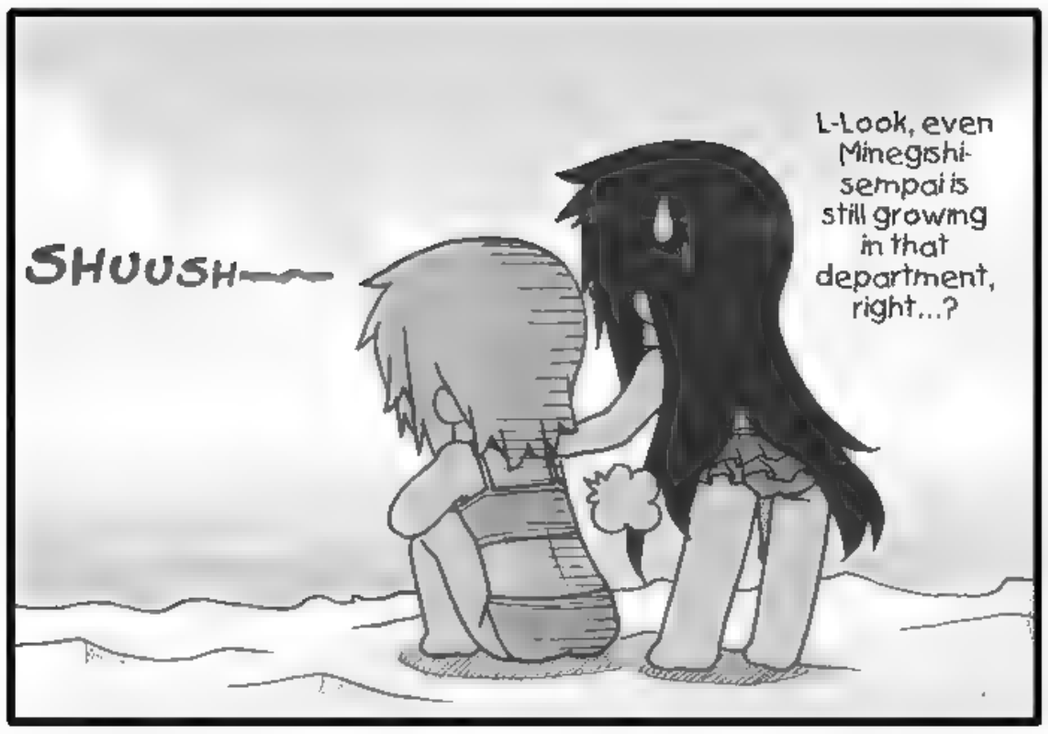
SOMETIME IT'S FUN TO EXERCISE ONCE IN A GREAT WHILE.
WHUMPH
But we lost quite a few games too.
Well done!
EH? I SUPPOSE THAT'S TRUE...
If I really made the effort..
BUT WOULDN'T YOU HAVE WON MORE GAMES IF YOU WENT AFTER THE BALL WHEN IT CAME TO YOU, SEMPAI?
All right, Miss Cool, you're on!
BUT IF IT WAS JUST FUN FOR ME ALONE, IT'D BE MISSING THE POINT.
It's also fun to hear you try to excuse yourself.
L-Like I said, it isn't. A little help here, Misakichi!
EH?! NO, YOU KNOW! THE WAY TSUKASA TAKES A SPLAT IN THAT WEIRD WAY! IT'S JUST FUN!
Huh? Et tu, Hiyorm?!
...WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU, IZUMI-CHAN!
THAT'S ...

- **Comptiq, December 2009 issue**

transformation

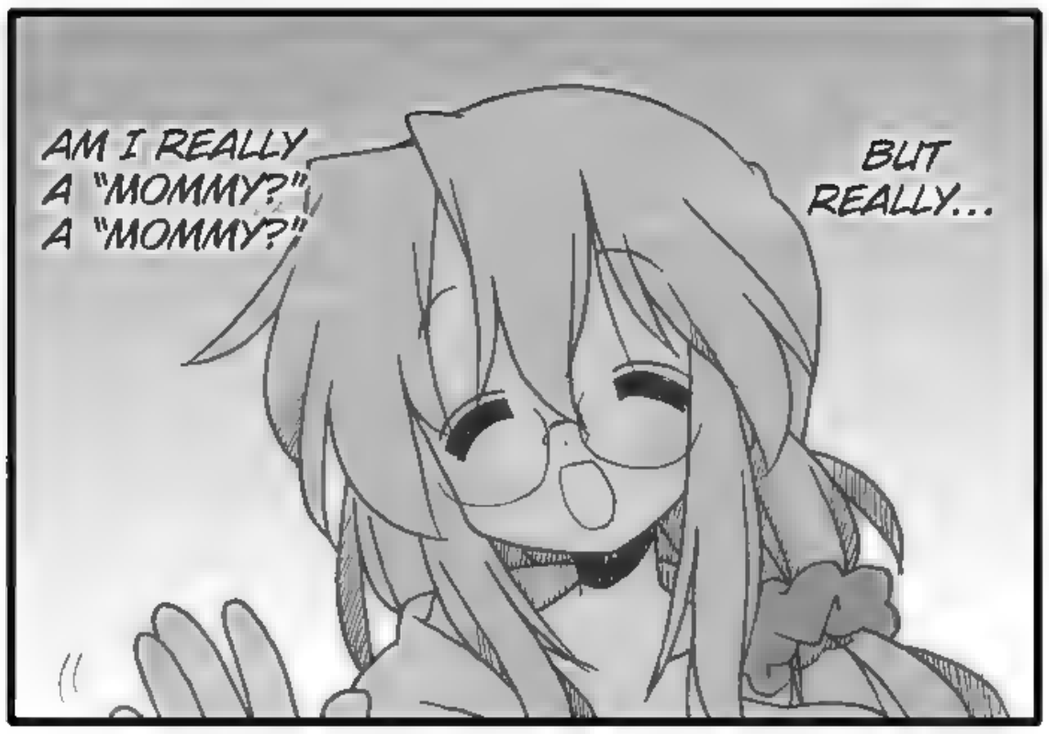




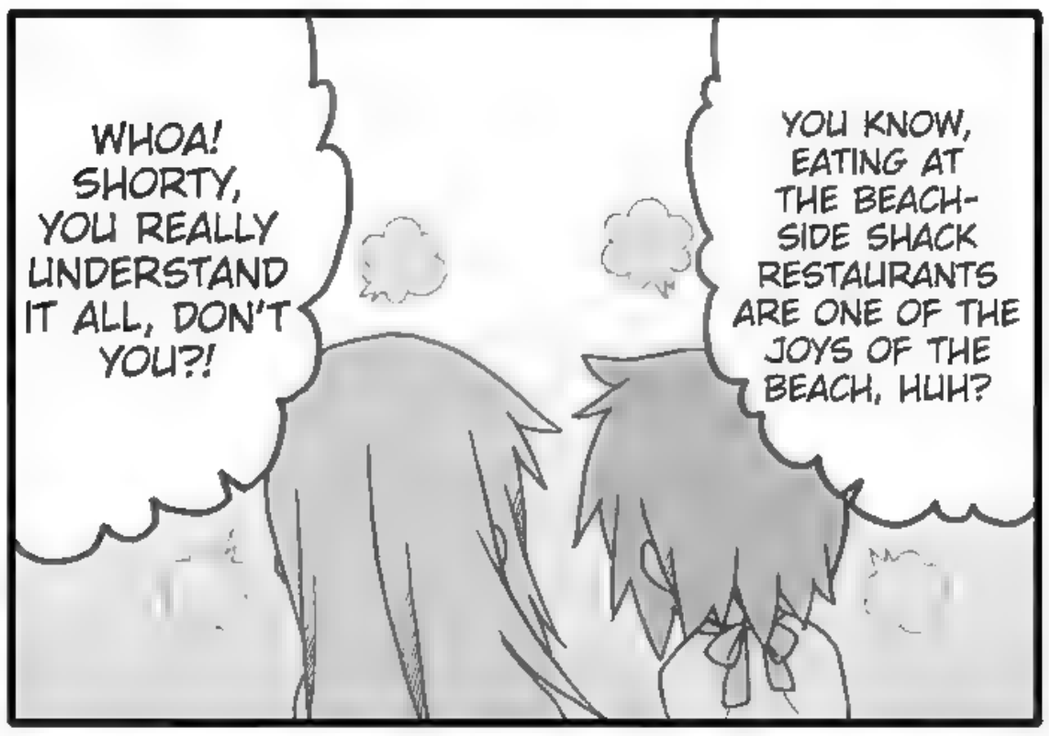


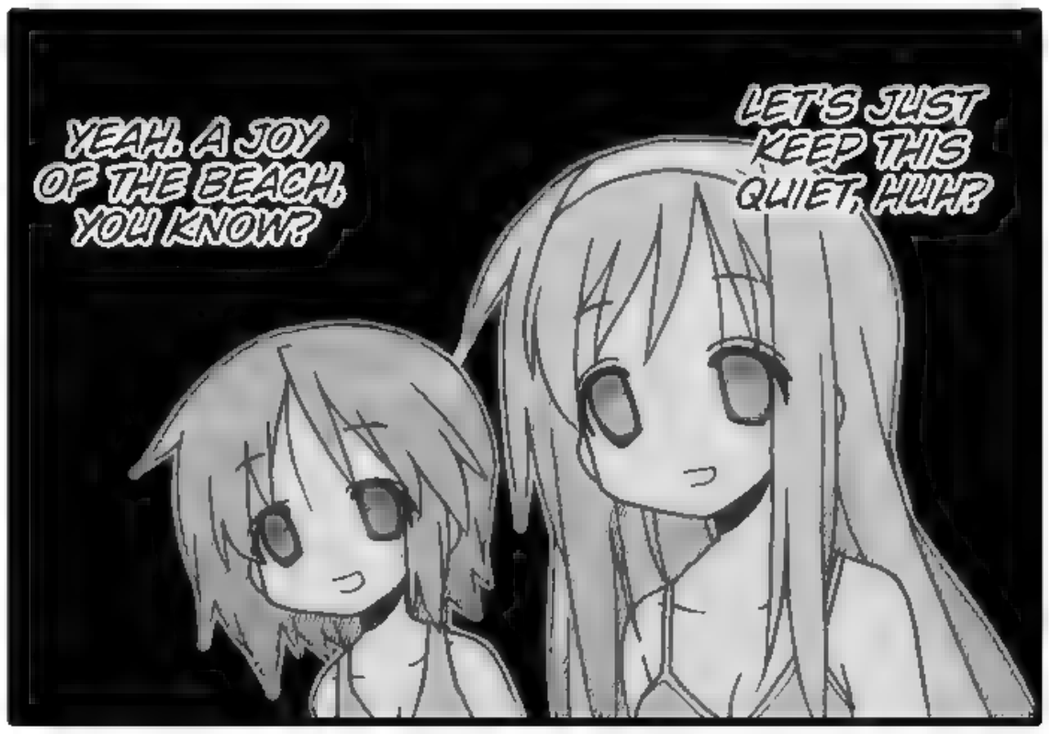
one woman's dream

aura



fun times


WHOA! SHORTY, YOU REALLY UNDERSTAND IT ALL, DON'T YOU?!
YOU KNOW, EATING AT THE BEACH-SIDE SHACK RESTAURANTS ARE ONE OF THE JOYS OF THE BEACH, HUH?



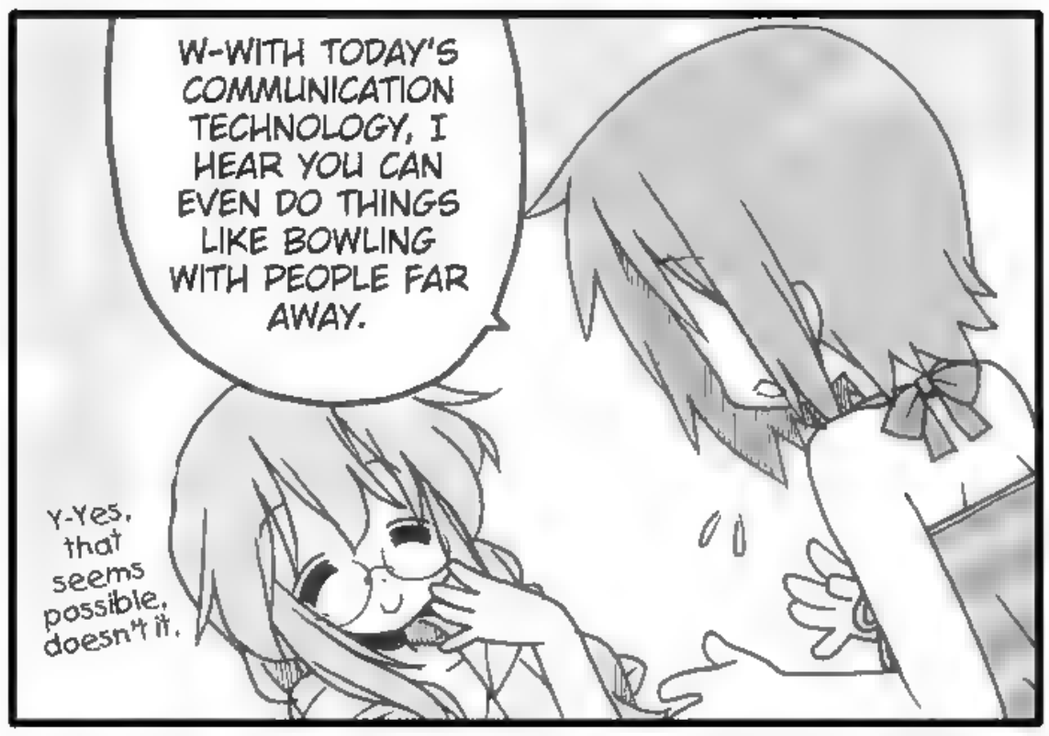
All we have is the family car. I wonder if I'll ever have my own car..
...BUT NOW WE CAME IN KONATA'S AND MIYUKI'S CARS. IT REALLY SHOWS YOU HOW MUCH TIME HAS PASSED.
STILL, TWO YEARS AGO, WE HAD TO HAVE SENSEI DRIVE US...
I want to hurry and get my own license!

IT REALLY IS SO FUN BEING WITH EVERYBODY.
You're right!

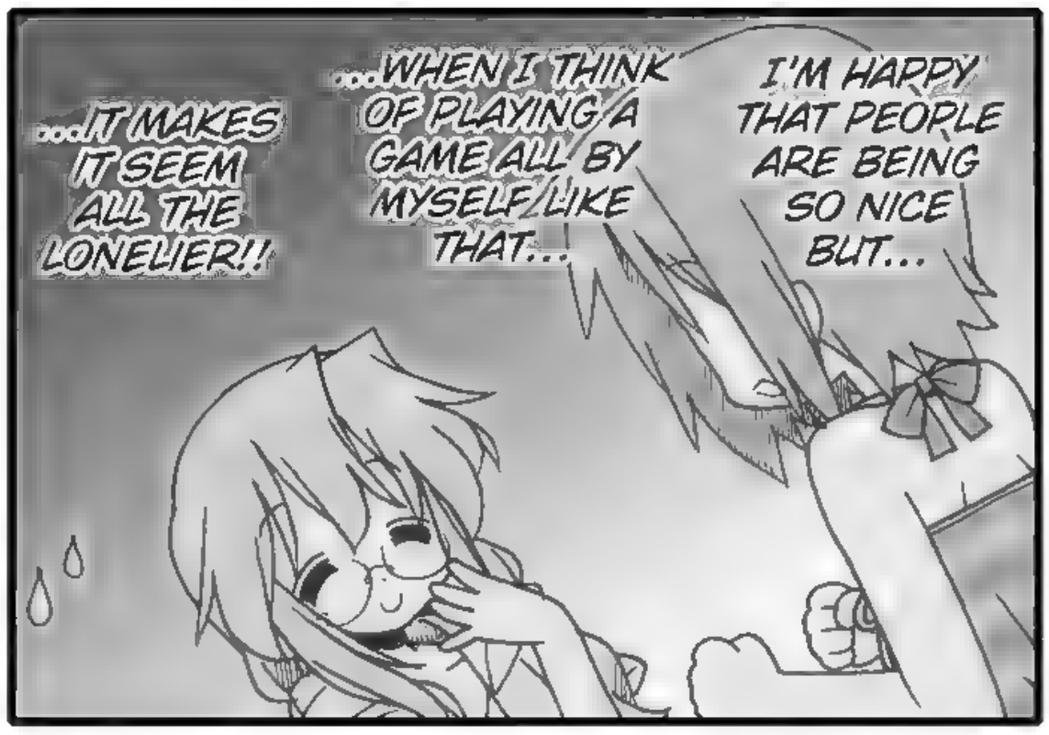
Well, we have one vehicle that is slightly larger than average. So you and I will be the drivers and...
All right!
THAT'S RIGHT! EVERYBODY GOING TO THE BEACH. SO IF YOUR FAMILY HAS A PRETTY BIG CAR, I THOUGHT WE'D COMBINE IT WITH MINE AND GO IN TWO GROUPS.

I HAVE TO KEEP UP ON MY STUDIES, AND I LIVE THE FARTHEST AWAY FROM THE GROUP...
SLUMP
I KEEP WANTING TO HANG AROUND EVERYBODY MORE, BUT...

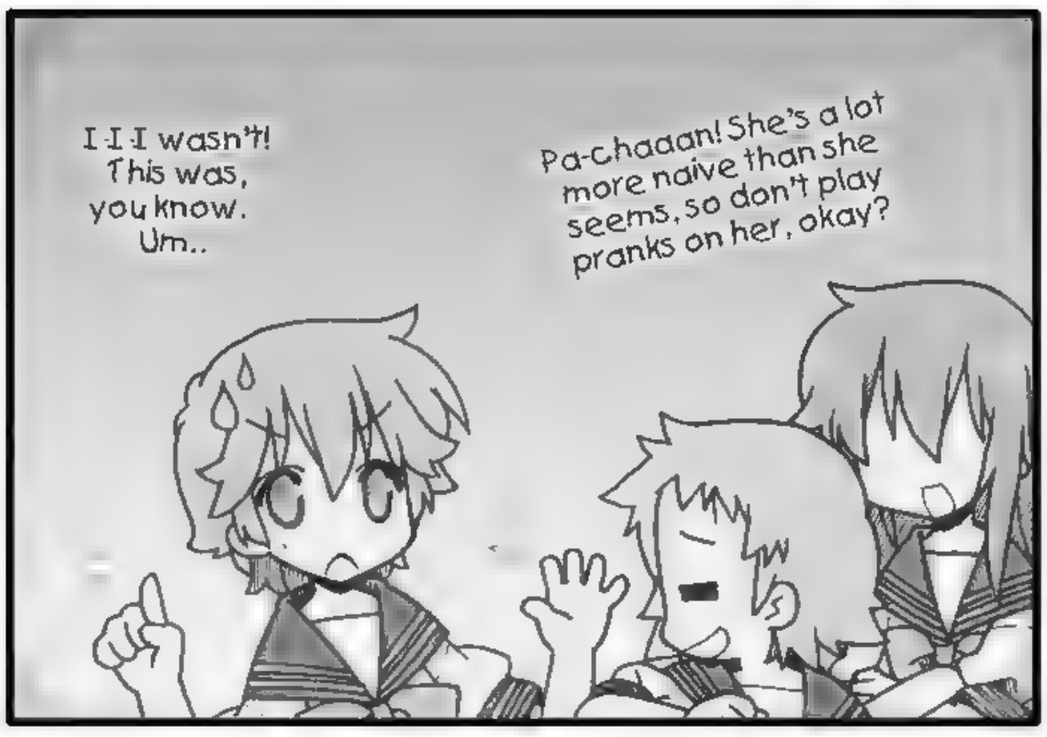
.....


W-WITH TODAY'S COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY, I HEAR YOU CAN EVEN DO THINGS LIKE BOWLING WITH PEOPLE FAR AWAY.
Y-Yes, that seems possible, doesn't it.

No, I do not drive a limousine.
WHEN WE'RE TALKING ABOUT YOUR FAMILY AND A BIG CAR, WE AREN'T TALKING ABOUT A LIMOUSINE, RIGHT?
Just wanted to make sure.


...IT MAKES IT SEEM ALL THE LONELIER!!
...WHEN I THINK OF PLAYING A GAME ALL BY MYSELF LIKE THAT...
I'M HAPPY THAT PEOPLE ARE BEING SO NICE BUT...

level of understanding



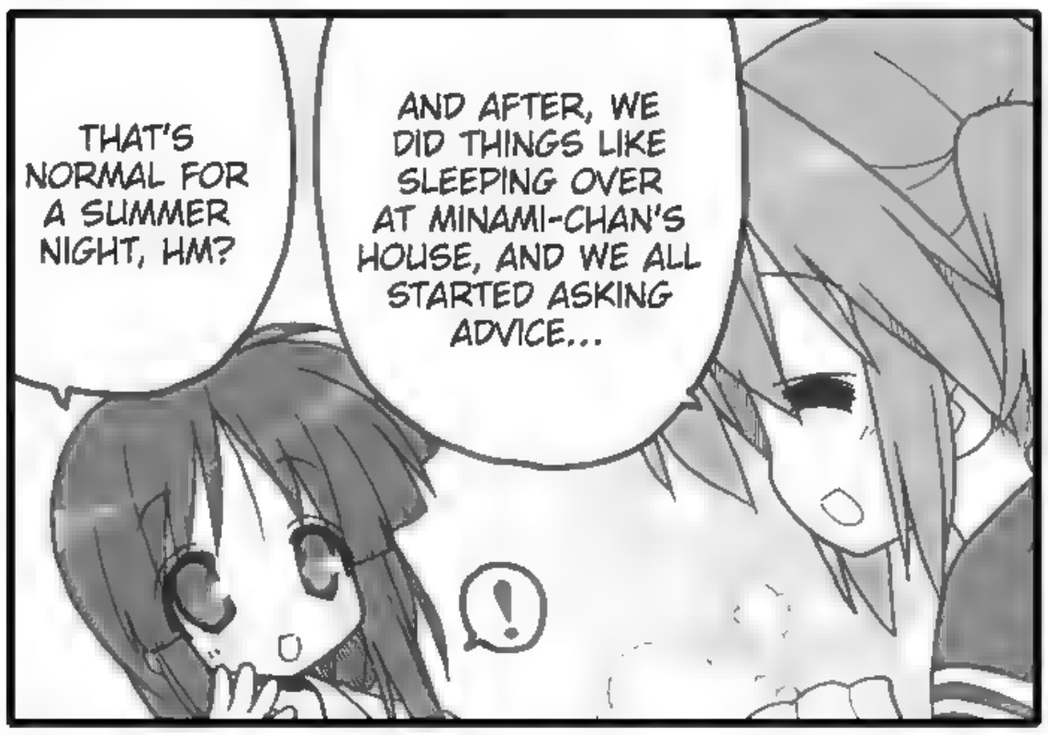
NORMAL PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT IT.
Its a game where you act cold to a person sometimes
Ke heh ke heh!
WA HA HA! JUST THE REACTION I EX-PECTED!
?
HUH? A GAME OF TSUNDERE TAG?!

the informationally deprived

YO!
OH, WAKASE-SAN, GOOD MORNING!
KOBAYAKAWA-SAN, PATRICIA-SAN, GOOD MORNING!
I met your big sister at the festival!
NEW SEMESTER BEGINS...

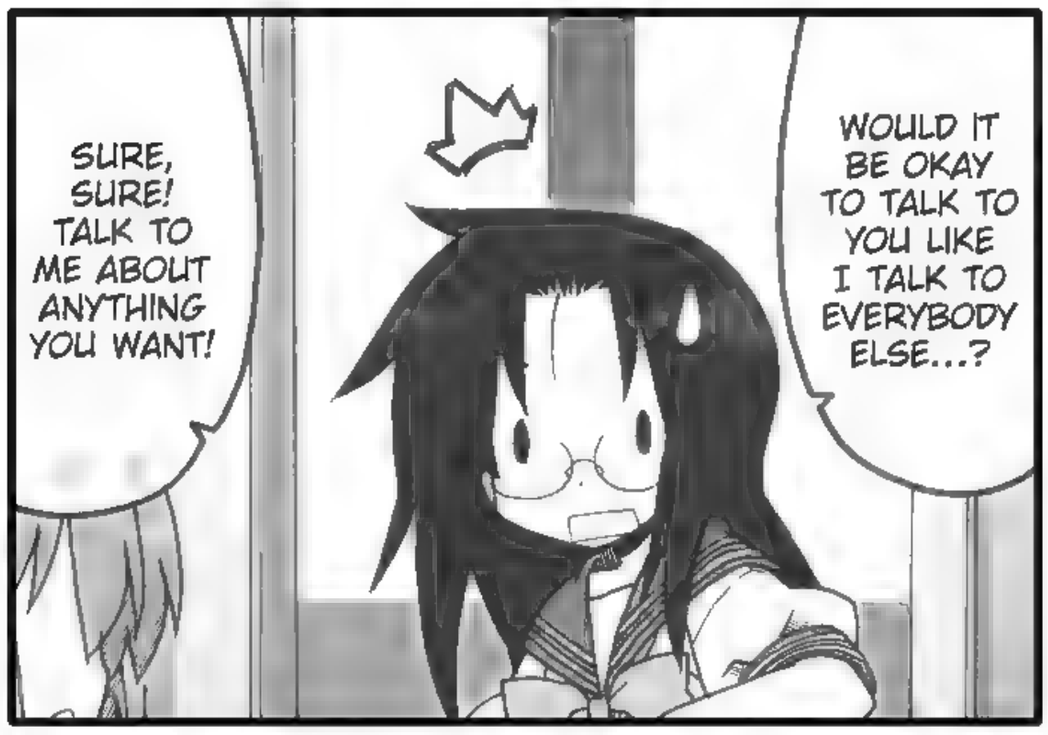
"YOU'RE RIGHT. UNTIL YOU GET USED TO IT, MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T TALK TO HER AT ALL."
"HM... IT'S HARD TO FIGURE OUT WHAT I CAN SAY AND WHAT I CAN'T. MAYBE I SHOULDN'T TALK TO HER MUCH AT ALL."
"SO AT SCHOOL, I THINK IT WOULD BE BEST IF YOU DIDN'T TALK ABOUT HEAVY OTAKU SUBJECTS LIKE THE COMIKET WITH HER!"
"IN JAPAN, THERE ARE PEOPLE LIKE THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT WHO ARE OTAKU BUT FEEL THEY HAVE TO HIDE IT."
HUUHH..

that talk


THAT'S NORMAL FOR A SUMMER NIGHT, HM?
AND AFTER, WE DID THINGS LIKE SLEEPING OVER AT MINAMI-CHAN'S HOUSE, AND WE ALL STARTED ASKING ADVICE...
!

the border between life and death

IZUMI ...
PATRICIA-SAN, I DON'T KNOW WHY WERE YOU PLAYING THAT, UM... TSUN-DERE TAG... WITH ME, BUT LET'S TALK LIKE NORMAL PEOPLE, OKAY?
It's bad for my heart.



Kagami Hiiragi

episode 221
meet me at your pc

arrival

I WONDER WHAT HAP-PENED THIS TIME?
OH-HO!
You know, it seems that each year, I'm seeing more and more people like you.
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
IT SEEMED LIKE A DATING SIM, AND THE GUY WAS REALLY INTO IT.
THERE'S THIS ONE WHO WAS PLAYING ON HIS PORTABLE GAME MACHINE DURING CLASS.
And no matter how much he plays those sims, it won't get him a real girlfriend!
Even to the point of playing it during class!
WHEN THERE ARE REAL GIRLS TRYING TO GET MARRIED AND FAILING... SOME GUYS WANT TO MARRY GAME CHARACTERS ...?!
..... By the way, there was a guy who seri-ously tried to marry a dating sim character.
GULP

- Comptiq, January 2010 issue

eye opening

definition

U-UH-HUH...
Is that right?
RECENTLY IN THIS GENRE OF GAME, ONE GAME HAS COME OUT WITH TITLE AFTER TITLE, AND THE MEDIA IS ALL OVER IT.
IF WE USE YOUR LOGIC, KAGAMI, IF SOMEBODY BOUGHT THE GAME NOT KNOWING WHAT TYPE OF GAME IT WAS, THEY MAY BE "PURE," RIGHT?

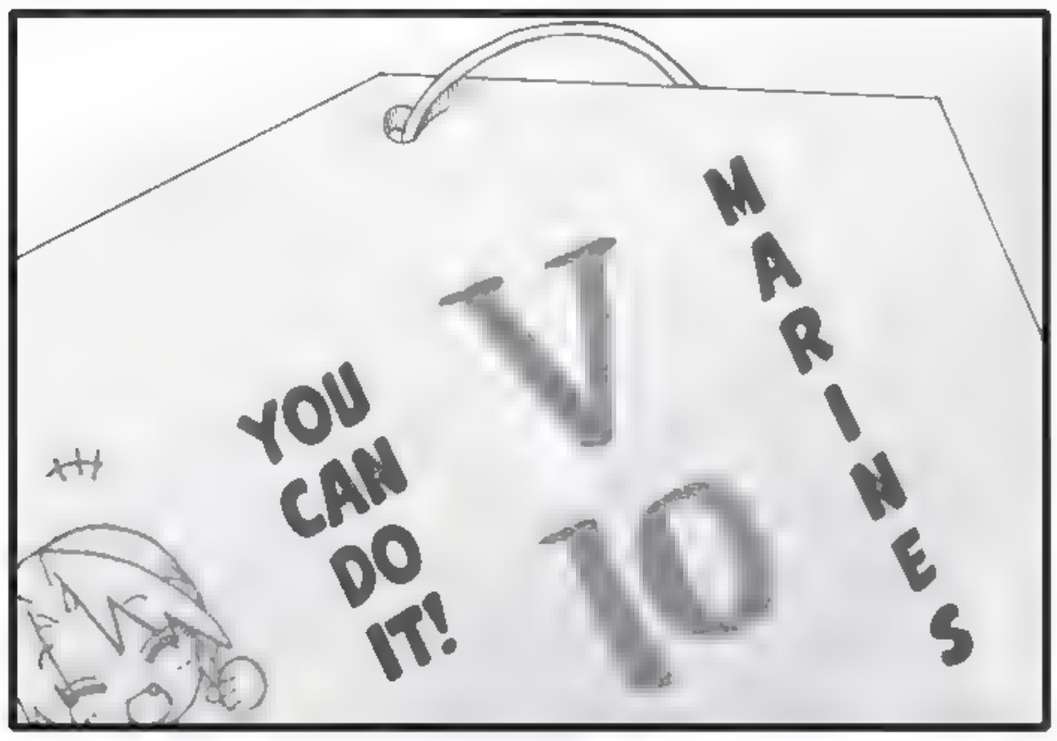
THEY REALLY PILE UP, SO I'M BUSY GETTING THROUGH THEM.
Thanks for giving me my name!
They're out somewhere.
Where's Patricia-san and the gang today?
SO YOU'RE AT IT AGAIN ?!

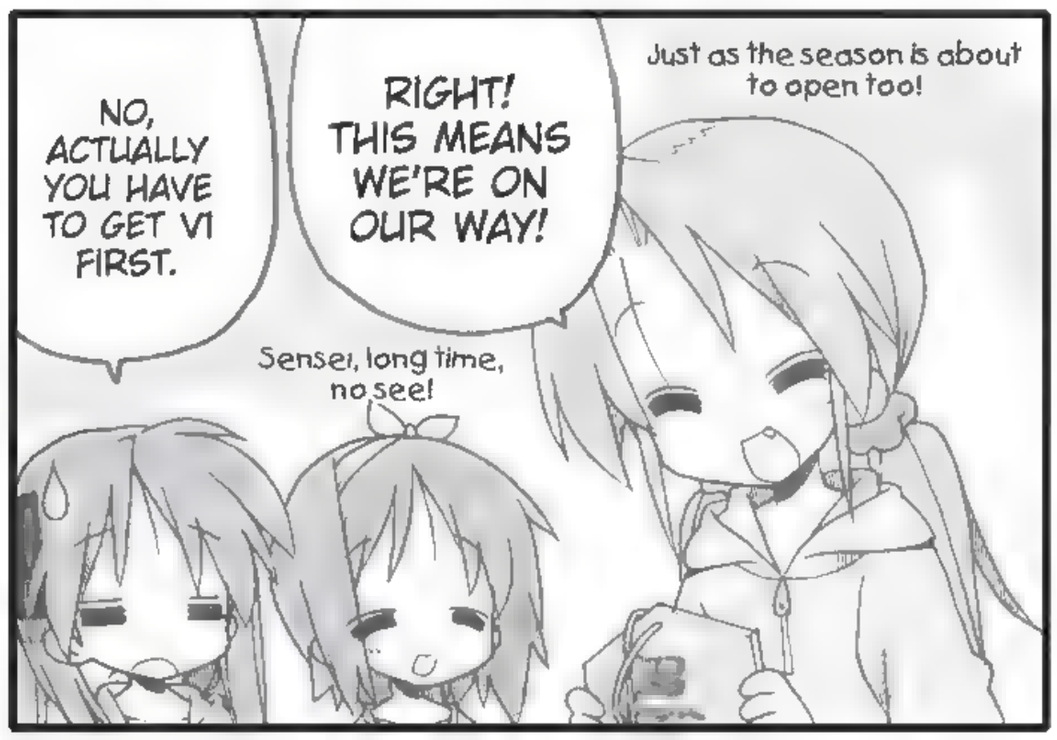
HEH HEH HEH! IT'S A PLACE WHERE ONLY PURE-AT-HEART GENTLEMEN ARE ALLOWED TO ENTER. HIGH-CLASS MEN IN FORMAL ATTIRE.
I seem to have a sore throat today..
BUT I GOTTA SAY, THAT'S A WEIRD SITUATION FOR A GAME...
A club?

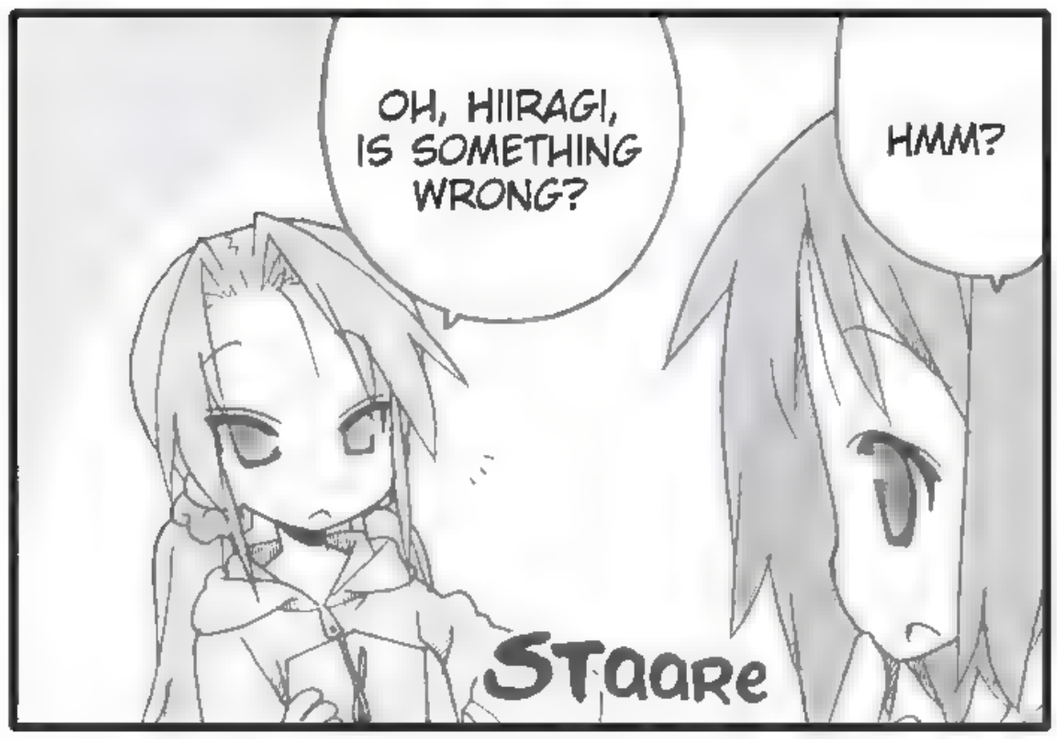
DOOM
But with a new game, you can become pure again quick!
ONCE THEY'VE FINISHED THE GAME, THEY'RE PROBABLY NO LONGER "PURE"!!
Welcome to MOEworld!!

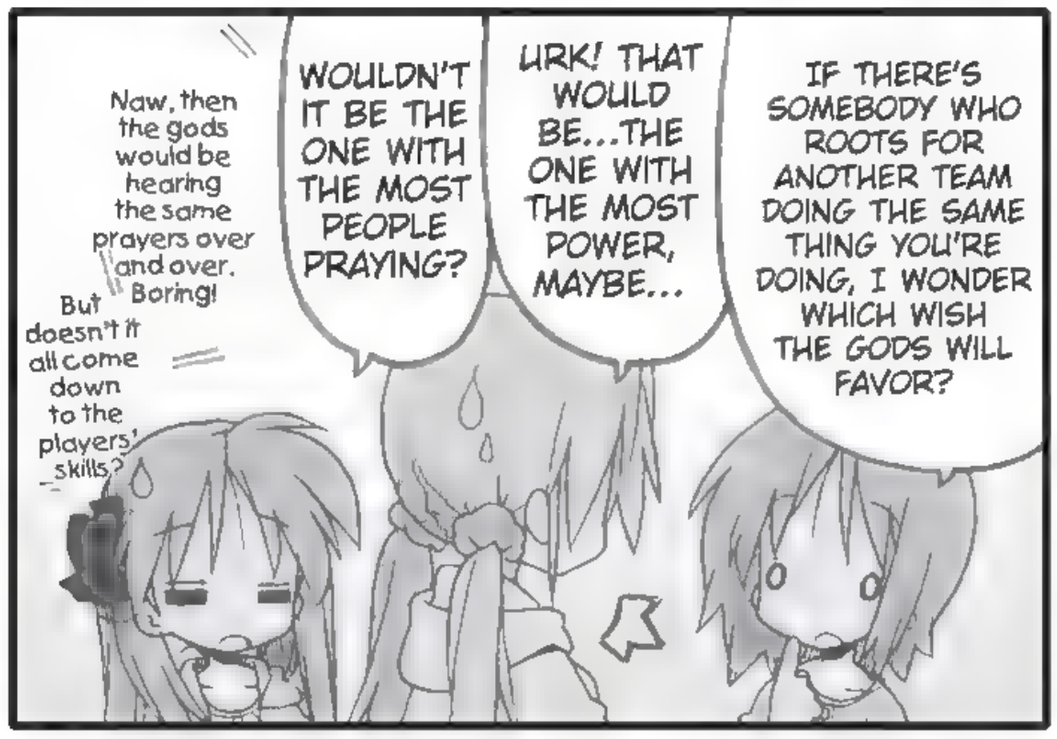
AND I CAN'T REALLY ACCEPT AN EXPLANA-TION FROM SOMEBODY WHO GOES THROUGH GAME AFTER GAME WITH A NEW "BRIDE" FOR EACH GAME!
YOU KNOW! IT'S THE PURENESS OF THE CHARAC-TER...
They've got ulterior motives out the wazoo
YOU KNOW, I REALLY DOUBT ANYBODY WHO BUYS THE GAME WITH THAT METHOD OF WINNING... NOBODY WOULD CALL THEM "PURE."

in great demand




NO, ACTUALLY YOU HAVE TO GET V1 FIRST.
RIGHT! THIS MEANS WE'RE ON OUR WAY!
Just as the season is about to open too!
Sensei, long time, no see!




Naw, then the gods would be hearing the same prayers over and over. Boring!
But doesn't it all come down to the players' skills?
WOULDN'T IT BE THE ONE WITH THE MOST PEOPLE PRAYING?
URK! THAT WOULD BE...THE ONE WITH THE MOST POWER, MAYBE...
IF THERE'S SOMEBODY WHO ROOTS FOR ANOTHER TEAM DOING THE SAME THING YOU'RE DOING, I WONDER WHICH WISH THE GODS WILL FAVOR?

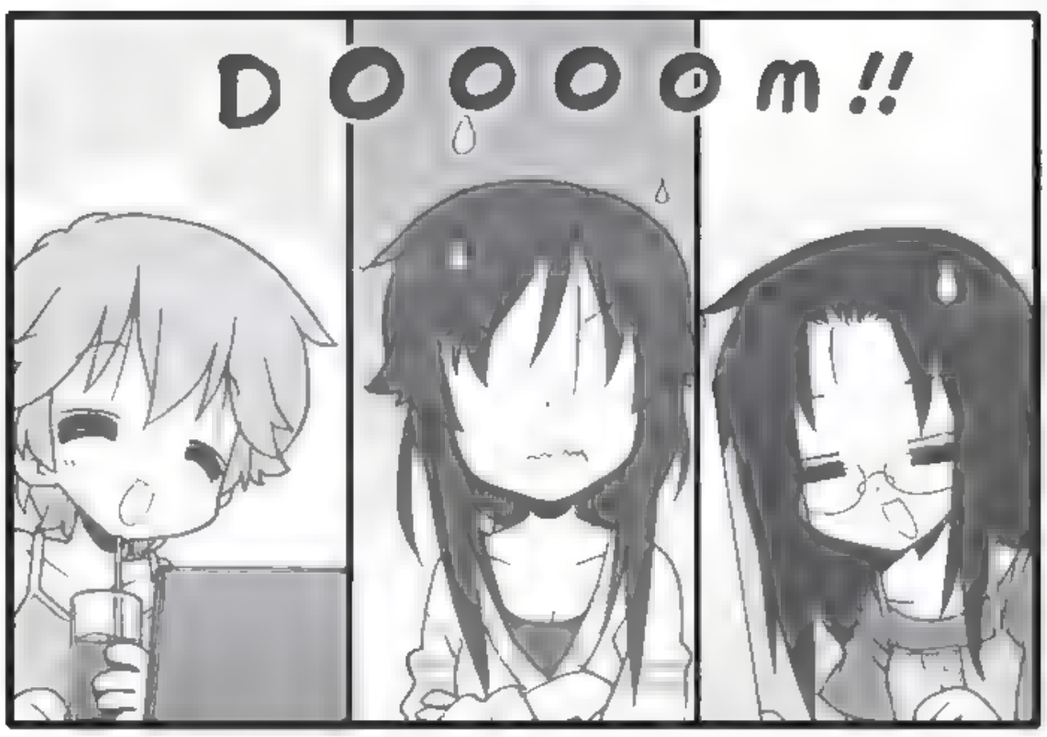
• Comp Ace, May, 2010

Miyuki Takara

episode 222
one way

all of a sudden

THEN HOW ABOUT WE HAVE AN ONLINE CHAT TONIGHT?
Along with Tamura-san.
WHISPER WHISPER
Y-YES, ANYTHING BUT THE REALLY HARD KANJI.
You can call me by my nick name.
PATRICIA-SAN, CAN YOU READ JAPANESE WRITING?
WHISPER WHISPER



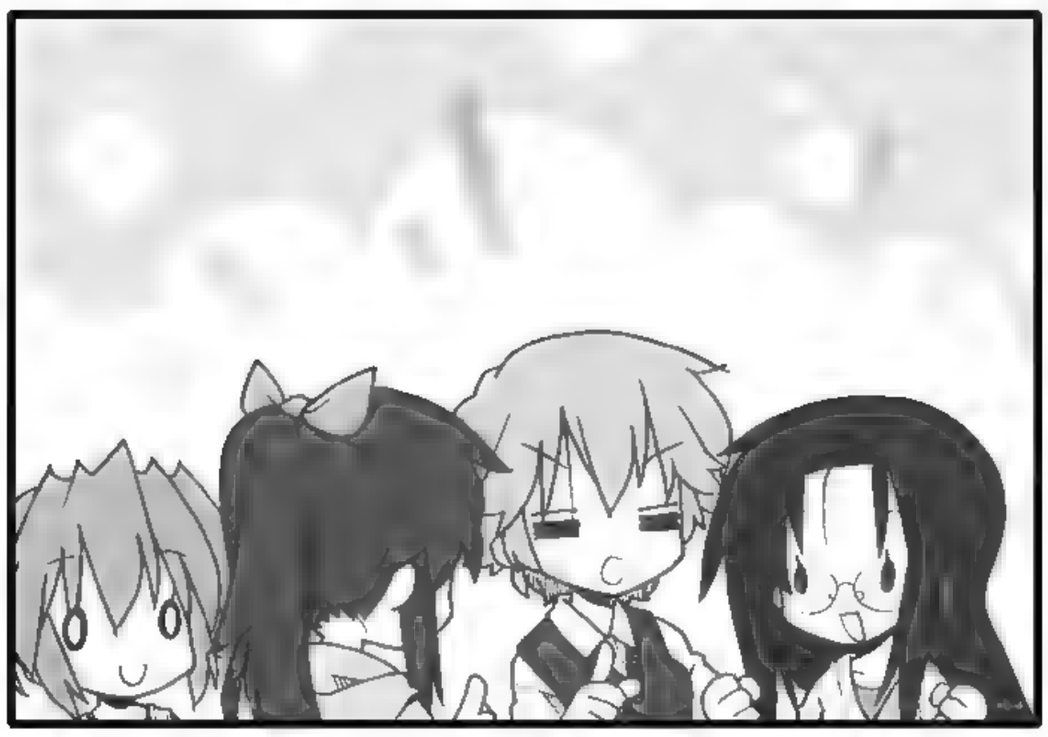
I'LL REPLY, "SURE, PA-SAN. WHAT IS IT?"
Izumi, do you mind?
I'LL TYPE, "FIRST MEETING SUBJECT: HOW MUCH OTAKU TALK IS TOO MUCH?"
KLIK KLIK
KLIK

ONE LITTLE CRACK, AND EVERYTHING FALLS APART REALLY QUICKLY!
THAT WAS QUICK!
I probably should have expected it.
Yutaka is watching this. Are we okay?
This is Yutaka's PC after all...
I bid farewell to my entire life.

• Comptiq, February 2010 issue

the sudden change

Oh, that! Yeah, I saw it!
By the way, last night, did you see..
Her fashion is how she hides it, but she was always pretty.
You're always so fashionable, Wakase-san! Nobody would ever think...

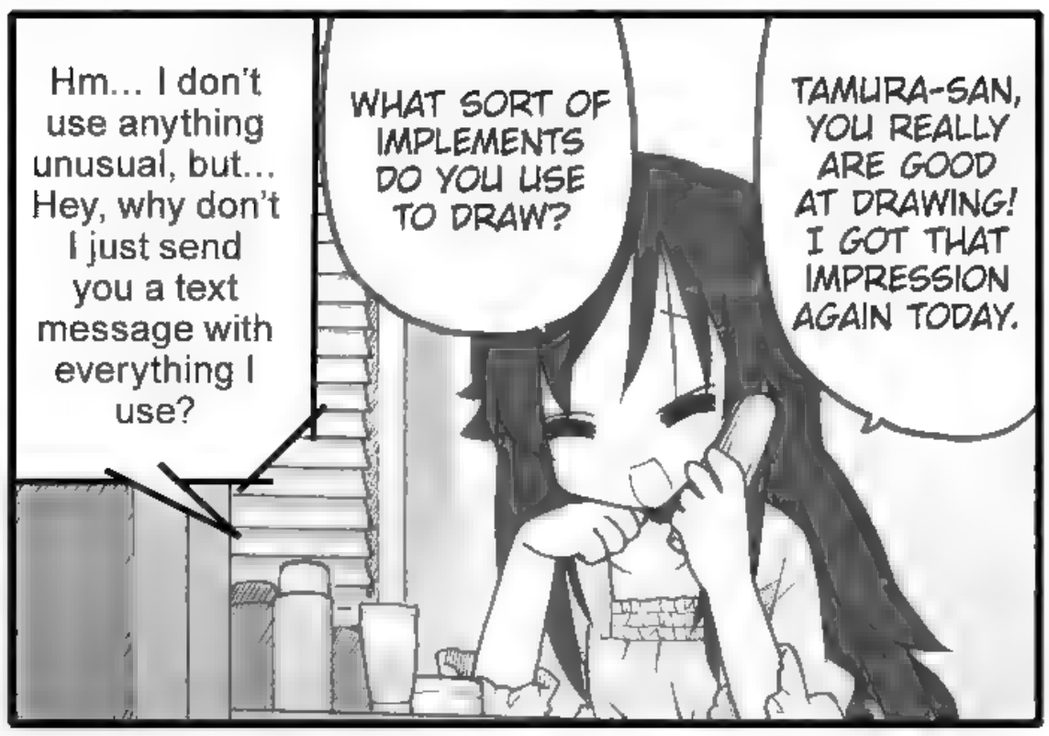


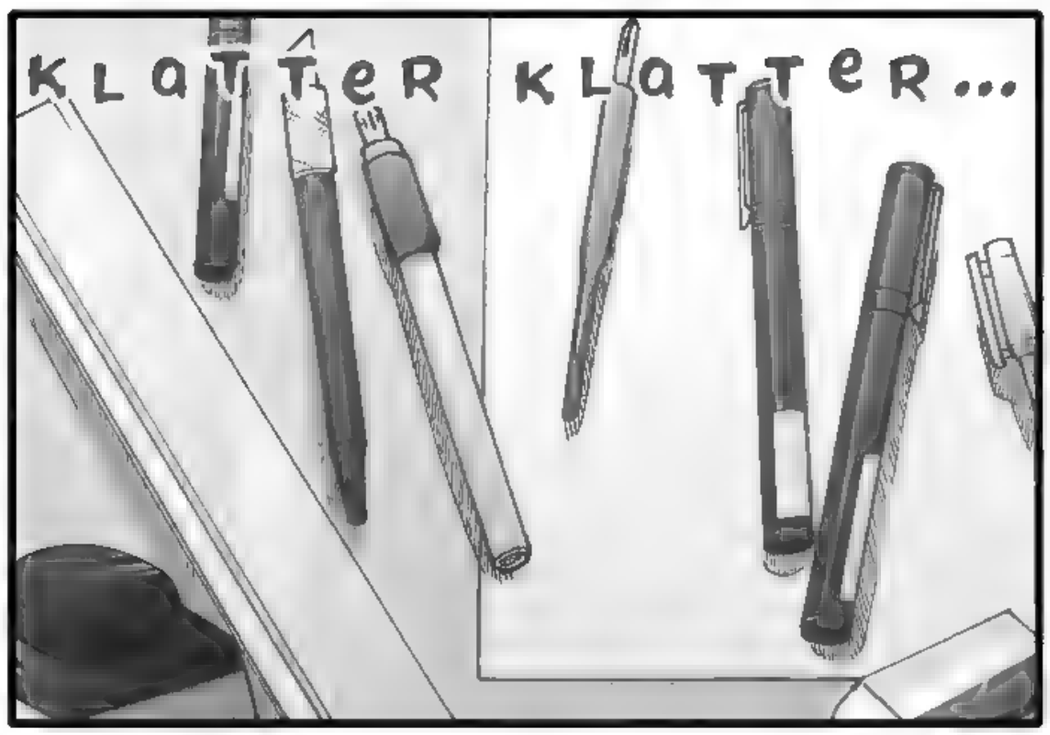
happens all the time

Don't worry, I won't say anything. But there are a lot of nice people in our class so I doubt...
It isn't as if I distrust my friends.. But you know the looks people give... But I don't have anything against otaku...
Izumi is really kind of fun to watch!

I know, but..
H-Hiyori-san is a nice person..
...KOBA-YAKAWA-SAN YOU MIGHT PICK YOUR FRIENDS MORE CAREFULLY ...
I KNOW I'M NOBODY TO SPEAK, BUT...
AH!
STaaaRe
I think I can guess what you're thinking.

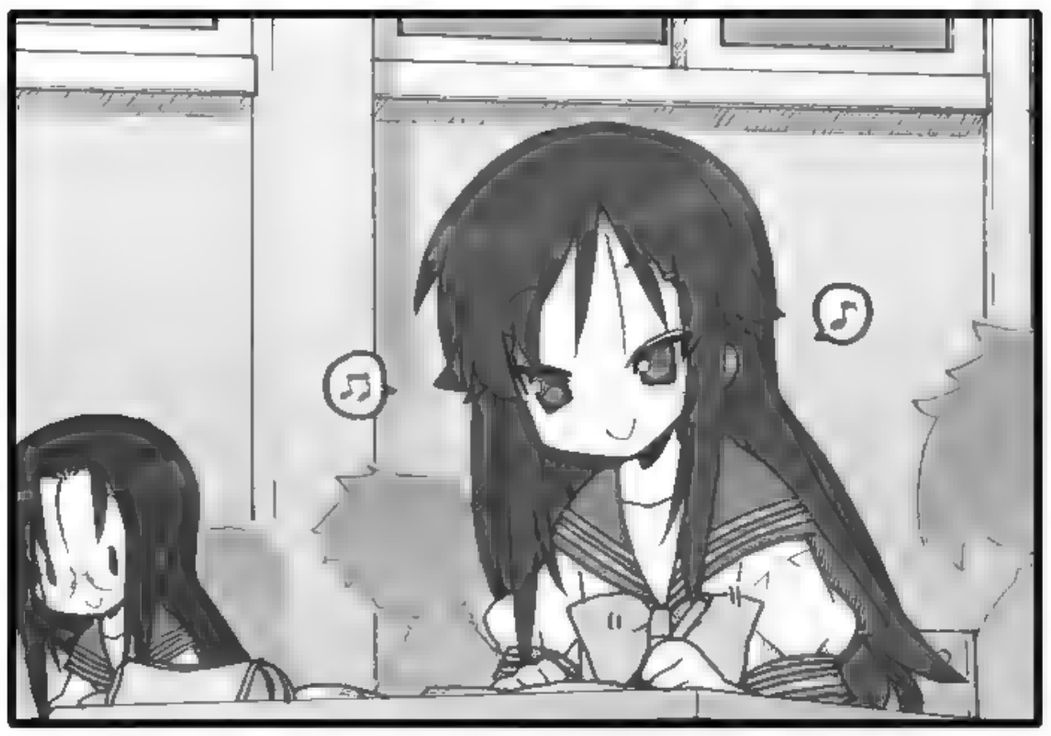
sense of achievement

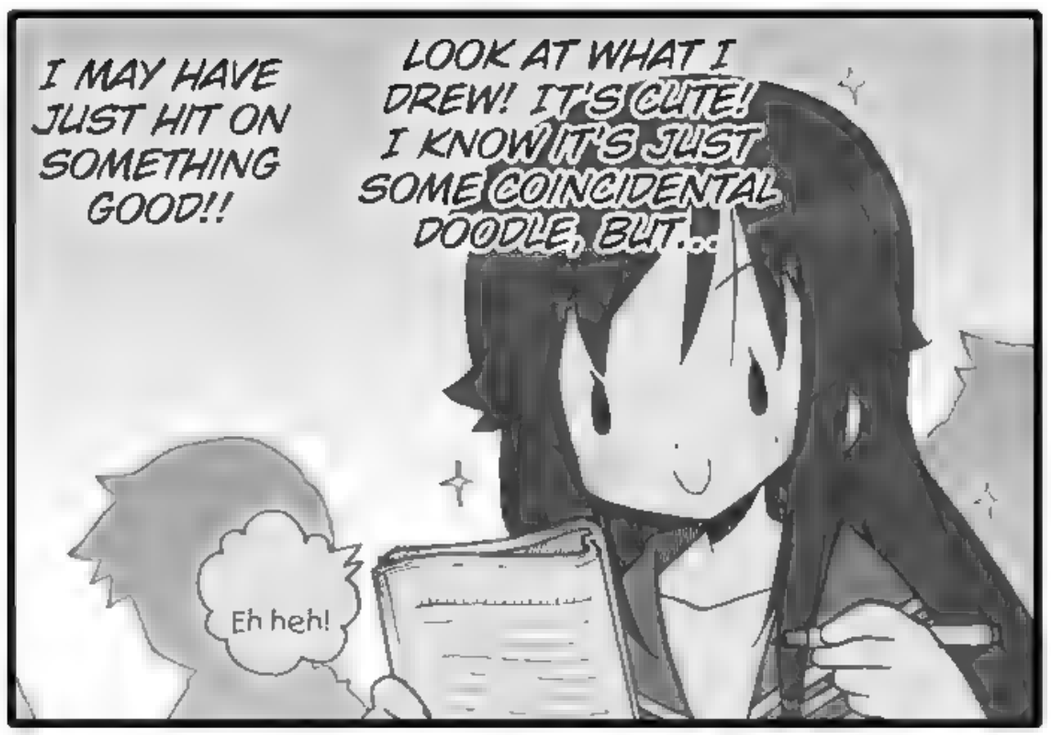

Hm... I don't use anything unusual, but... Hey, why don't I just send you a text message with everything I use?
WHAT SORT OF IMPLEMENTS DO YOU USE TO DRAW?
TAMURA-SAN, YOU REALLY ARE GOOD AT DRAWING! I GOT THAT IMPRESSION AGAIN TODAY.



DAMMIT! NORMALLY PEOPLE DON'T HAVE A FEELING OF "MISSION ACCOM-PLISHED" BY JUST GETTING ALL THE TOOLS.
YEAH, IT'S COMING ALONG...
SEVERAL DAYS LATER...
So after I sent the message, how'd the drawing go?

awakening from the dream





Misao Kusakabe

Lucky☆Star

episode 223 treasure finding

HUH? I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH CHANGE.
..... WELL ACTUALLY I HAVE QUITE A BIT EXTRA. HOW ABOUT I...
SST
Then how about we all let Minami-chan treat us?
RRR RIP
SHE SHOWS HER METAL AS A GENTLEMAN!
OH, GREAT! THAT'S MINAMI-CHAN FOR YOU!
Wonder-ful!
Thanks!
ooooo HMP
"Rrrip"?

• Comptiq, February 2010 issue

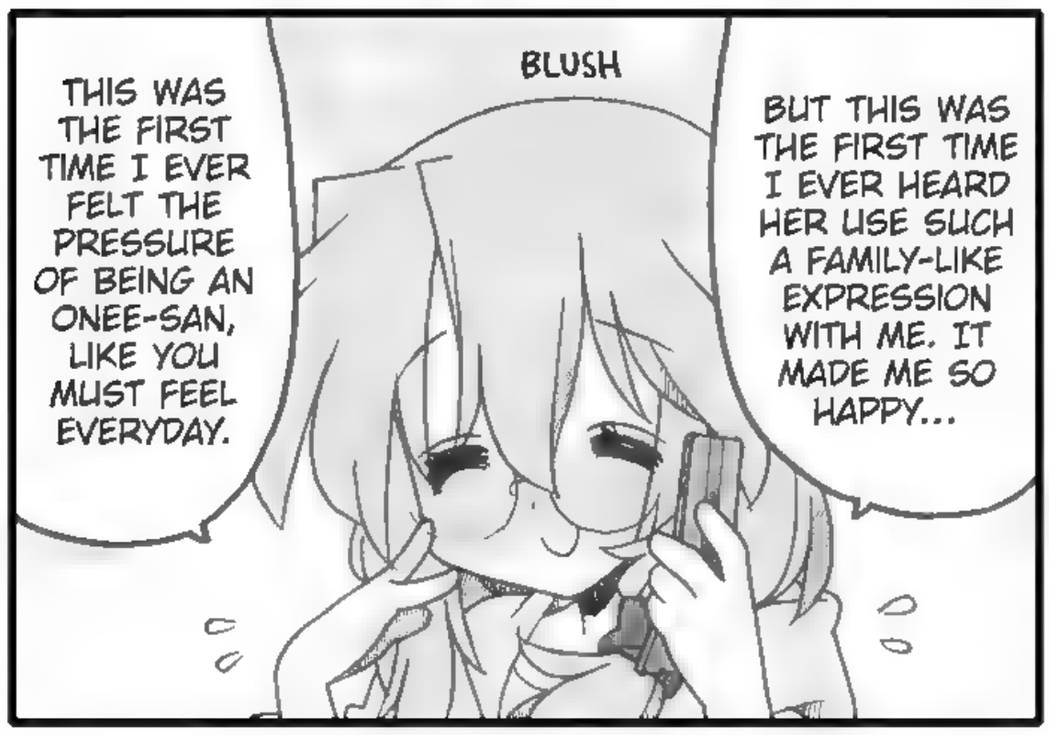
exchanging experiences

Oh, Sensei!
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING YOUR IDEAS FOR THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL TOO!
OH, IT'S WAKASE'S GROUP. YOU'RE STILL HERE?
...LOANING OUT COSTUMES TO PEOPLE, A PLANETARIUM, A MAZE, OR A FULL-CLASS PLAY.
SOMETHING UNUSUAL... THINGS I'VE SEEN DONE ARE...
YEAH, I SAY THAT, BUT IT'S REALLY HARD TO COME UP WITH SOMETHING UNUSUAL.
Well, I understand that too.
Yeah..
AH, NO... MY BROTHER'S INFLUENCE...
Those sound like fun.
OH, HO! YOU'VE HAVE QUITE A FEW DIFFERENT EXPERIENCES, WAKASE.
...IN SIM GAMES!!
YEAH, HE'S SEEN AND DONE ALL SORTS OF THINGS...
Izumi, you really get along with your big brother, huh?
You two go out places together a lot too, right?

fear reborn

I WANT TO HEAR AS MANY INDIVIDUAL IDEAS AS WE CAN COME UP WITH!
I WAS HOPING TO START PLANNING WHAT WE'RE GOING TO PUT ON FOR THE CULTURAL FAIR.
Okaaaay
HOME ROOM...
NYAAAH!!
?
DINNG DONNG
THAT'S TRUE. MAYBE I'LL ASK ONEE-CHAN.
YOU KNOW, FOR THESE, I CAN ONLY EVER COME UP WITH THE USUAL SUGGESTIONS.
NYAAAH!!
TWITCH
YES... IF WE ASKED MIYUKI-SAN, WE'D PROBABLY GET A LOT OF IDEAS...
Maybe I'll ask her..
I HEAR THAT TAKARA-SEMPAI KNOWS ALL SORTS OF THINGS, HUH?
...THIS YEAR'S CULTURAL FESTIVAL COULD BE A DISASTER!!
IF WE DON'T HAVE THIS YEAR'S STUDENTS COME UP WITH SOME GOOD IDEAS...
Significant Pavilion Drama
Tora and

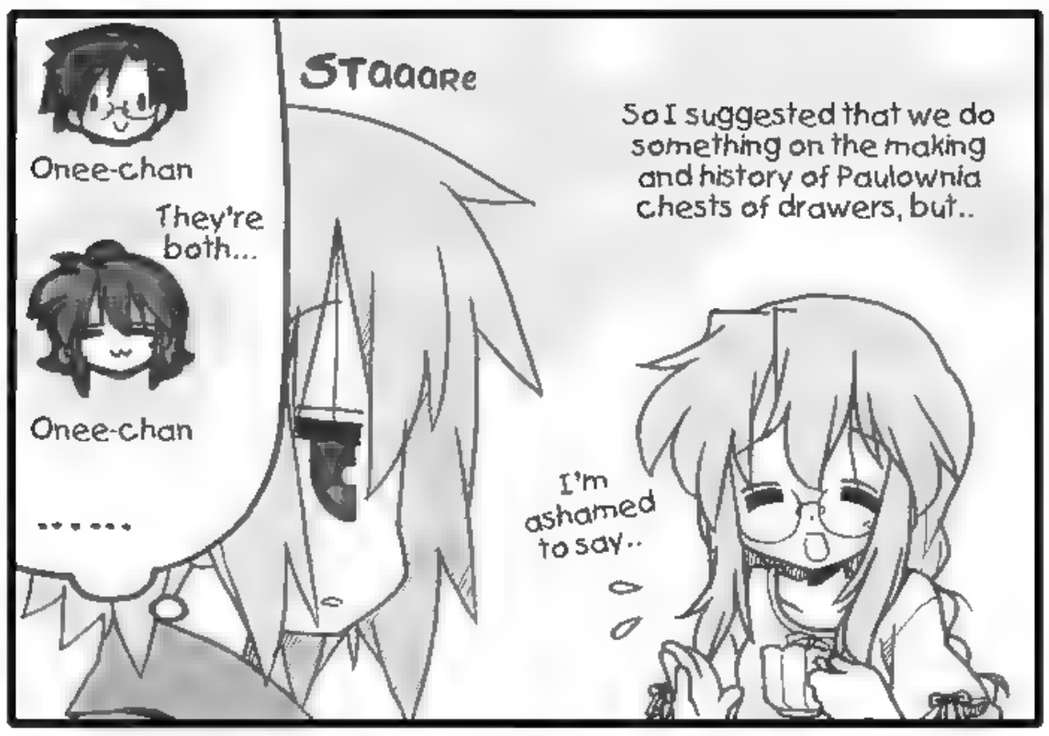
amazing type

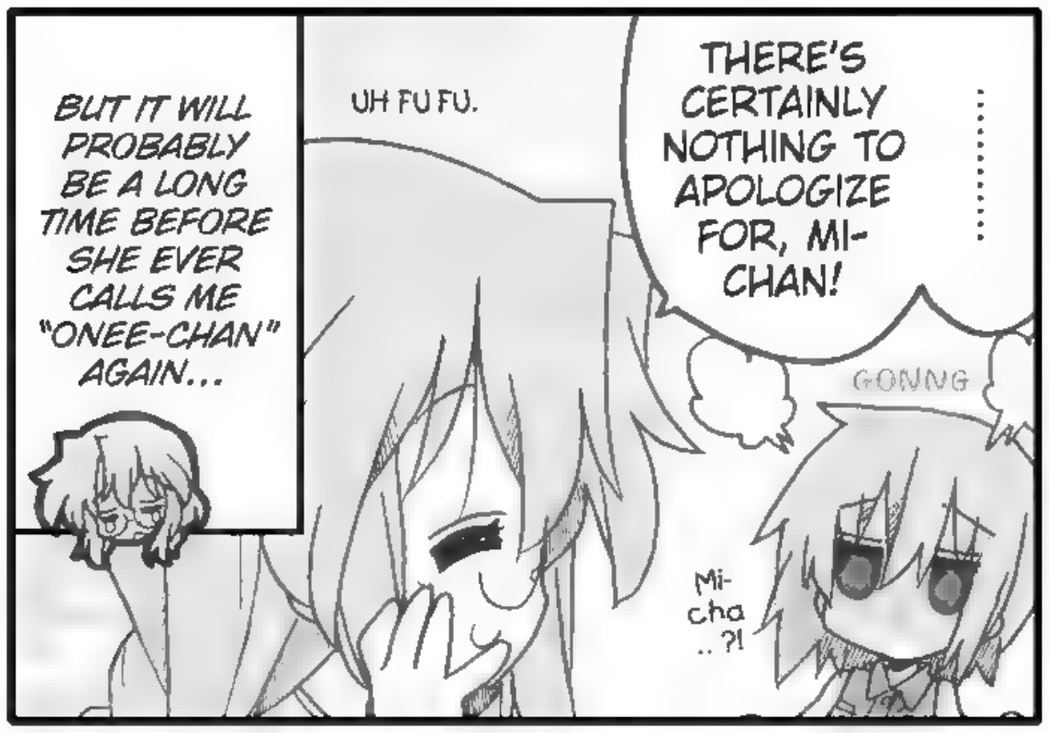

THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME I EVER FELT THE PRESSURE OF BEING AN ONEE-SAN, LIKE YOU MUST FEEL EVERYDAY.
BLUSH
BUT THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME I EVER HEARD HER USE SUCH A FAMILY-LIKE EXPRESSION WITH ME. IT MADE ME SO HAPPY...

...I THINK THE REALLY AMAZING ONE IS THE FRIENDSHIP OF YUTAKA-SAN, WHO IS CAUSING CHANGES IN MINAMI EVERY DAY.
THANK YOU FOR THE KIND WORDS, BUT...
Miyuki-san, you're just amazing, so there's no need for you to feel pressure!
Unlike me..

THAT'S SOMETHING THAT COULD BE SAID OF YOU AND THE ENTIRE GROUP, YOU KNOW?
But it's so embarrass ing to say that the words won't come out of my mouth
YES. I THINK I'M A LITTLE JEALOUS.
TEE HEE
Wow! For such praise from Miyuki-san, Yu-chan must really be amazing, huh? (LOL)

far-sighted


STaaaRe
Onee-chan
They're both...
Onee-chan
.....
So I suggested that we do something on the making and history of Paulownia chests of drawers, but..
I'm ashamed to say..


BUT IT WILL PROBABLY BE A LONG TIME BEFORE SHE EVER CALLS ME "ONEE-CHAN" AGAIN...
UH FU FU.
THERE'S CERTAINLY NOTHING TO APOLOGIZE FOR, MI-CHAN!
GONNG
Mi-cha ..?!

event flag

UH FU FU... WELL, I WISH SOME OF THEM HAD A BIT MORE SELF-RESPECT.
AH HA HA... PEOPLE CAN BE SELF-SERVING, HUH?
AND IT IS A PLACE WHERE STUDENTS' FOND MEMORIES ARE BORN, SO I THINK IT'S GOOD.
BUT YOU COULD CONSIDER THAT TO BE ONE OF THE SUCCESSES OF THE CULTURAL FAIR.
..to make sure I'm not lonely. That's nice too.
And during it, some students come by..
.....
.....
RIGHT! OKAY, THIS YEAR WE'LL MAKE SURE YOU'RE NEVER ALONE DURING THE ENTIRE FESTIVAL!!
B-BMP
B-BMP
AND WITH THOSE WORDS, THE HEALTH OFFICE BECOMES THE SUCCESS OF THE FESTI-VAL!!
GLANCE

canceling plans

YES. SHE'S MUCH BETTER NOW.
Excuse us!
SENSEI, IS YU-CHAN ALL RIGHT?
WHAT DO THE HEALTH-OFFICE PER-SONNEL DO DURING THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL?
SOMETHING JUST OCCURRED TO ME!
PHEW
OH! THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE THERE DURING THE CULTURAL FAIR, SO IT MUCH BE DIFFICULT FOR YOU.
...BASICALLY WHAT WE DO IS STANDBY IN THE HEALTH OFFICE.
WELL, WE DO MAKE THE ROUNDS OF THE BOOTHS, BUT...
We do check on aprons and hair nets at food stalls.
URK! THAT WAS DIRECTED AT US, I GUESS.
REALLY..?
SO ACTUALLY I HAVE LESS WORK THAN NORMAL.
AN INTERESTING THING IS THAT THE STUDENTS WHO ALWAYS COME HERE WITH HEALTH COMPLAINTS ARE USUALLY VERY HEALTH DURING THAT ONE DAY.
Maybe one-fifth the work.

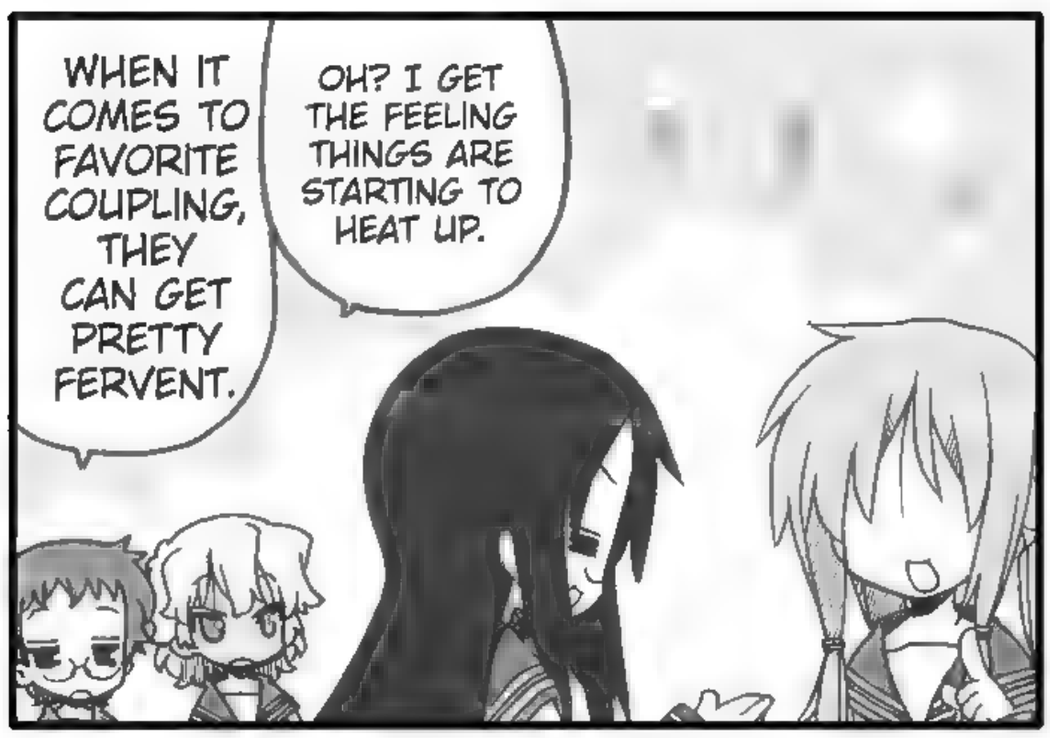
Aya Minegishi

gas weapon

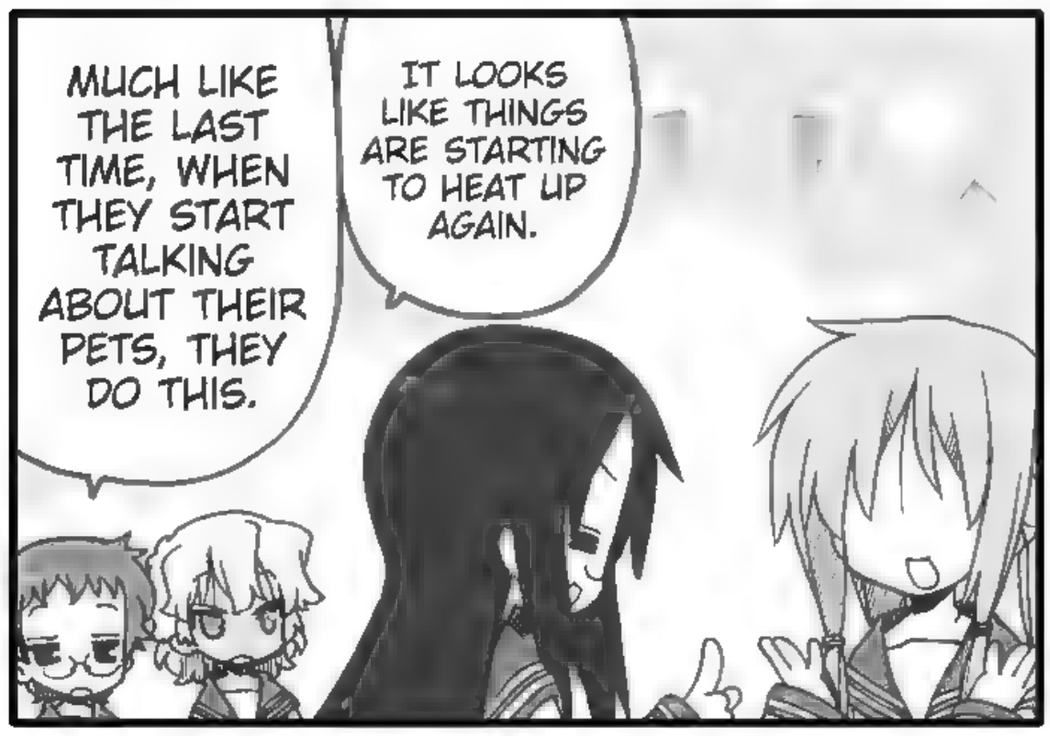
episode 224
go!! fight!!

• Comptiq, March 2010 issue

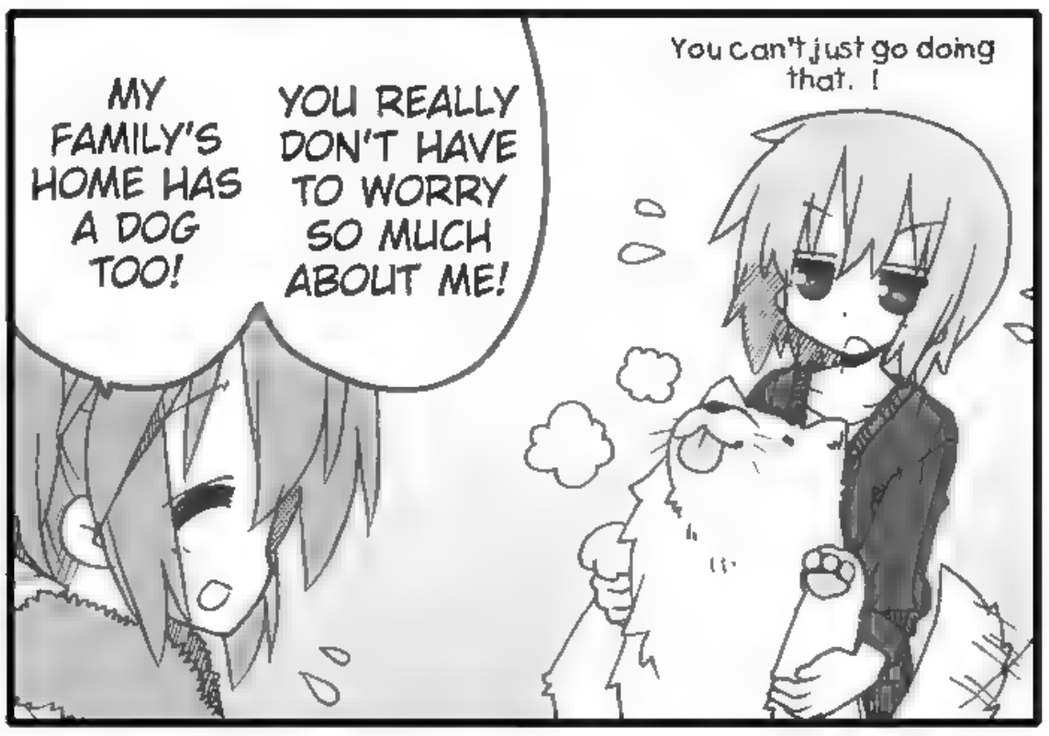
one type of food

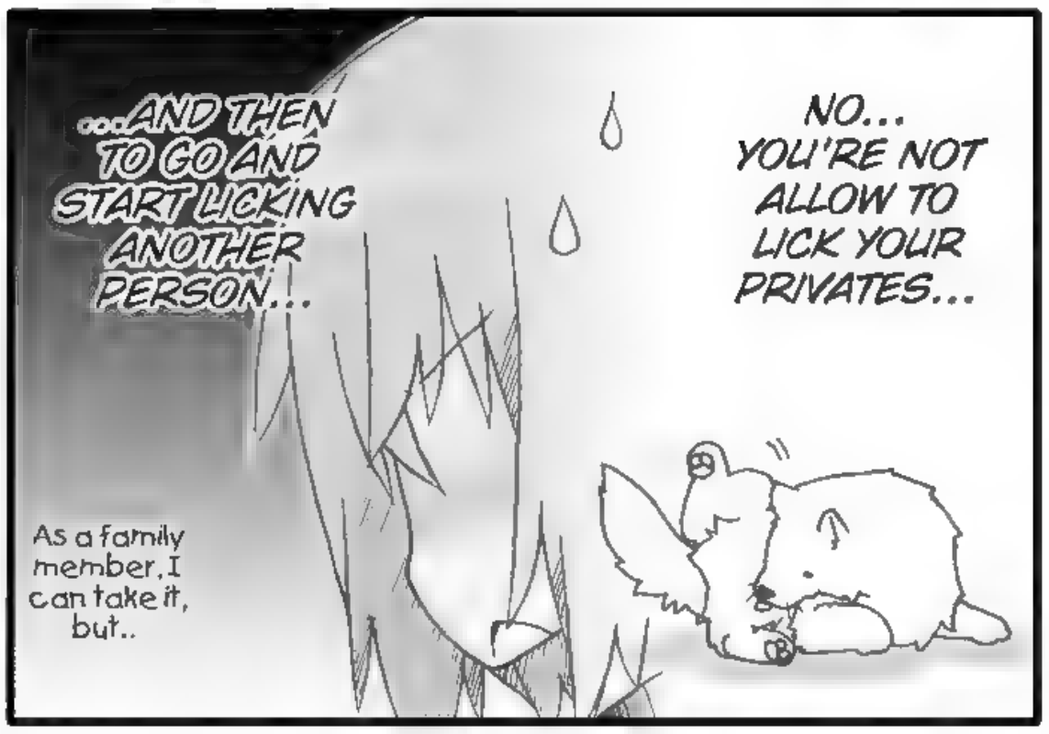


I MUST AGREE WITH YOU FULL-HEART-EDLY.
I GUESS THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF WAYS TO LIKE SOMEONE, SO IT'S NO HELP TO COMPARE THEM...
Aw, geez!


MUCH LIKE THE LAST TIME, WHEN THEY START TALKING ABOUT THEIR PETS, THEY DO THIS.
IT LOOKS LIKE THINGS ARE STARTING TO HEAT UP AGAIN.

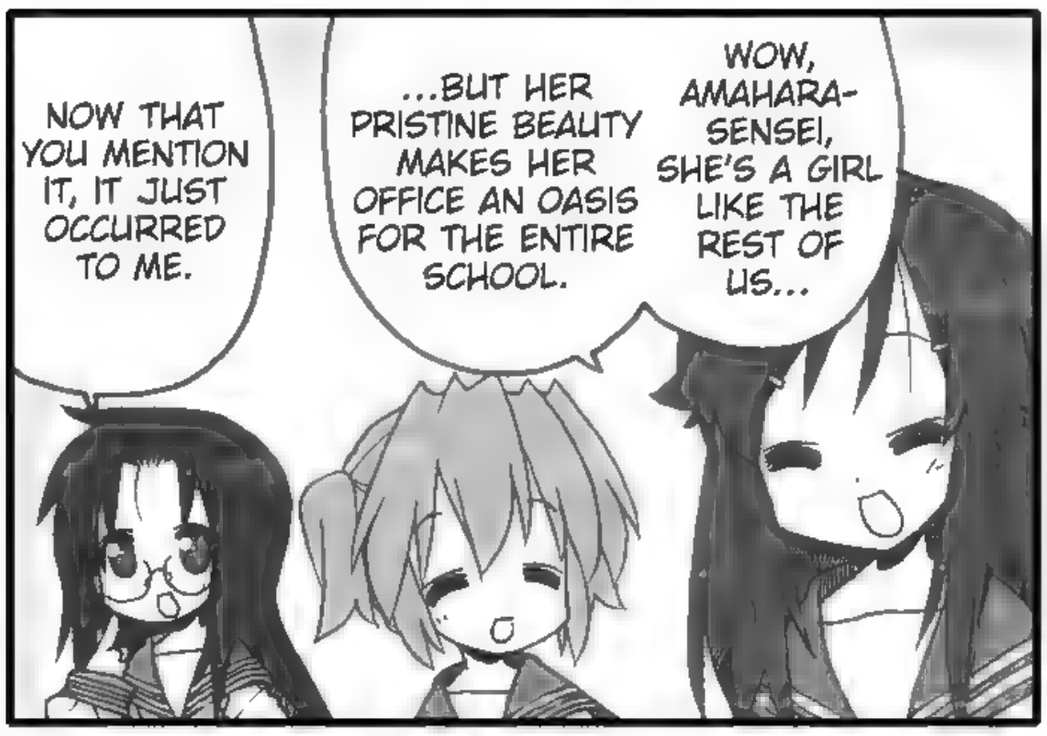
indirect




...AND THEN TO GO AND START LICKING ANOTHER PERSON...
NO... YOU'RE NOT ALLOW TO LICK YOUR PRIVATES...
As a family member, I can take it, but..

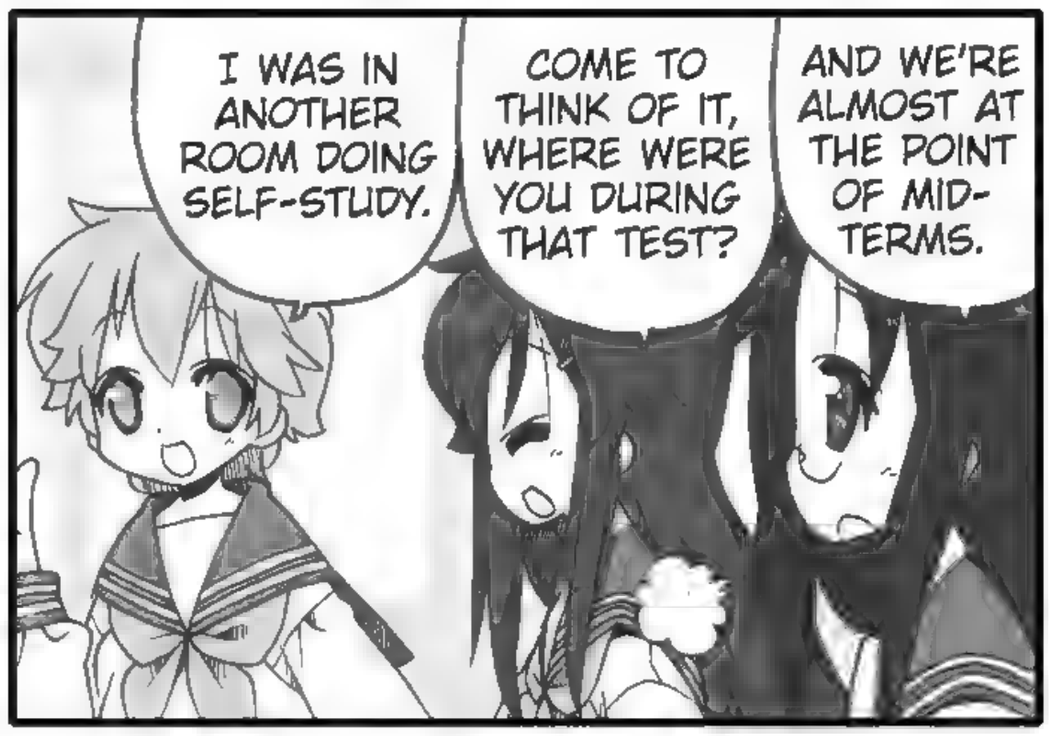
the future beyond that

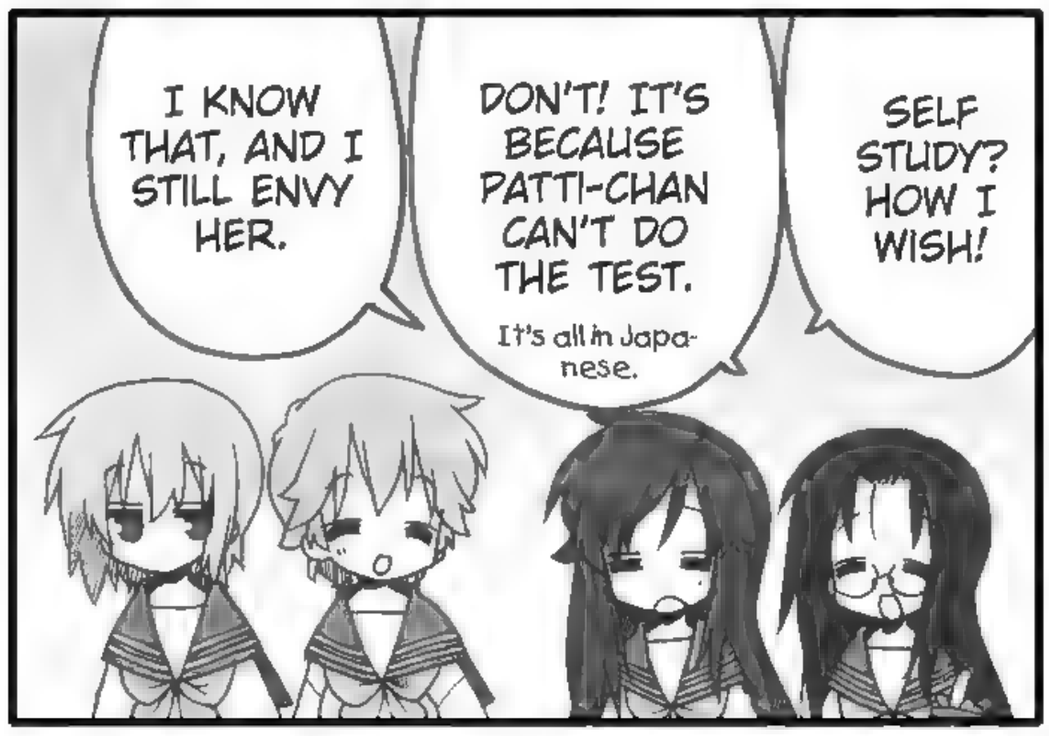
I EXPECT YOU TO WORK HARD, BUT BE SURE THAT YOUR HEALTH DON'T SUFFER BECAUSE OF IT.
EVERYONE, REMEMBER THAT THE TESTS ARE COMING UP SOON.
OKAY, KOBAYAKAWA-SAN, TAKE CARE!
And thank you for making these copies.


NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, IT JUST OCCURRED TO ME.
...BUT HER PRISTINE BEAUTY MAKES HER OFFICE AN OASIS FOR THE ENTIRE SCHOOL.
WOW, AMAHARA-SENSEI, SHE'S A GIRL LIKE THE REST OF US...

AH... NOTHING. I WASN'T IMPLYING ANYTHING.
..... WHAT MIGHT YOU BE TRYING TO IMPLY...?
..were looking at some rotten apple or something.
Please don't look at me like you..

the same ending

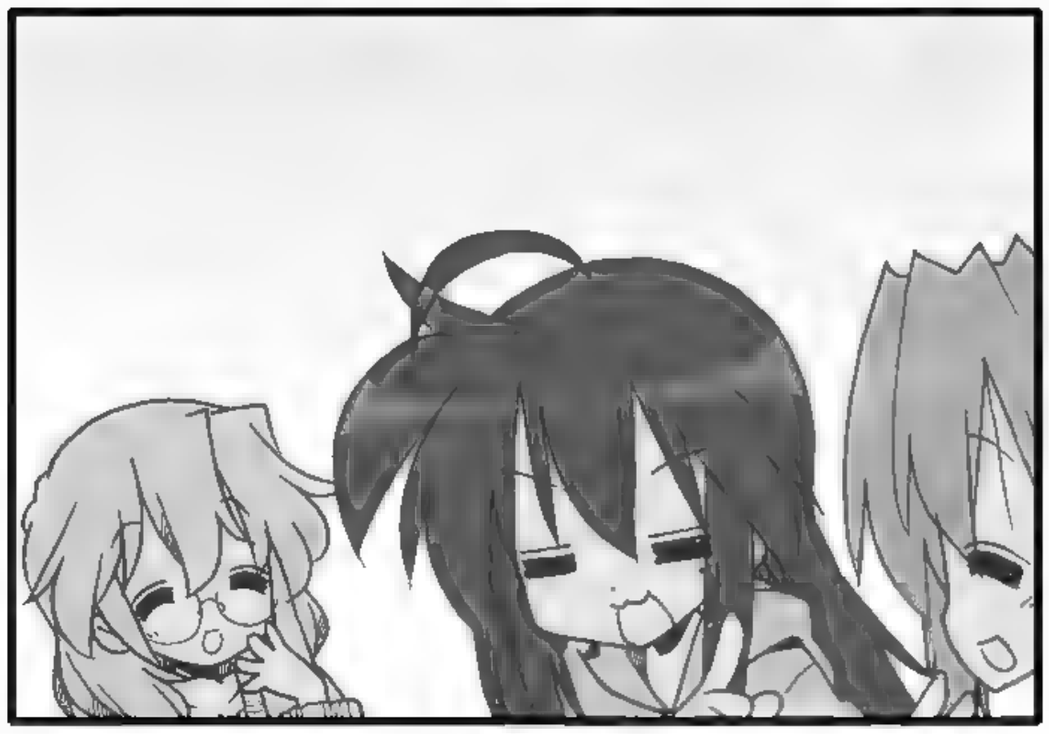

I WAS IN ANOTHER ROOM DOING SELF-STUDY.
COME TO THINK OF IT, WHERE WERE YOU DURING THAT TEST?
AND WE'RE ALMOST AT THE POINT OF MID-TERMS.

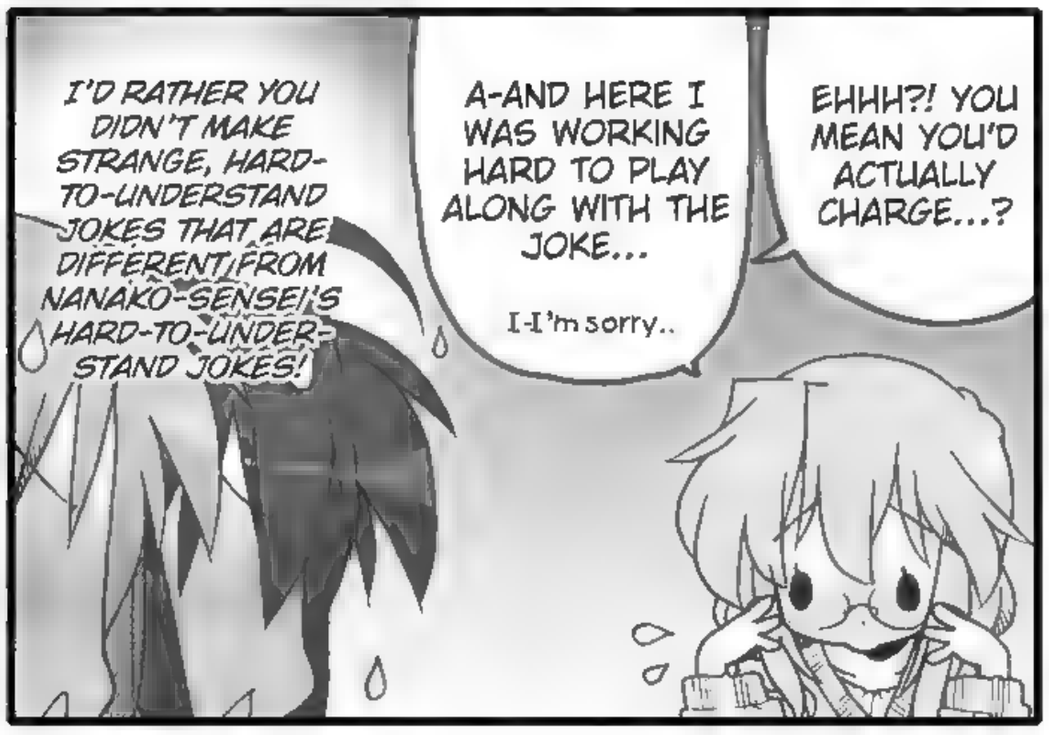


hard worker

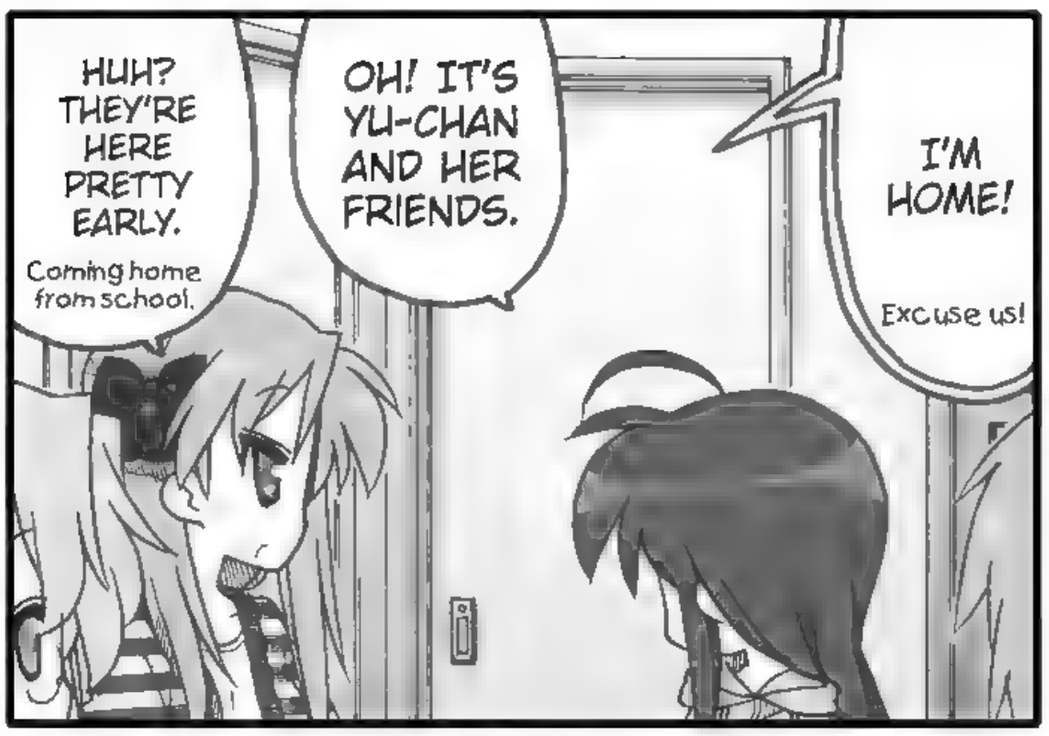
WOW! MAYBE I'LL ASK HER ABOUT SOME OF THE THINGS I DON'T UNDERSTAND!
No, not really..
COME TO THINK OF IT, MIYUKI-SAN'S EXPLANATIONS ARE ALWAYS SO EASY TO UNDERSTAND.
Hello!
Hi there!

UH FU FU. I'LL GIVE YOU A DISCOUNT.
AH HA HA
EHH?!
That's going to make it harder to learn.
WHOA, WAIT! YOU CAN'T HAVE IT FOR FREE, YOU KNOW!
TSK TSK TSK

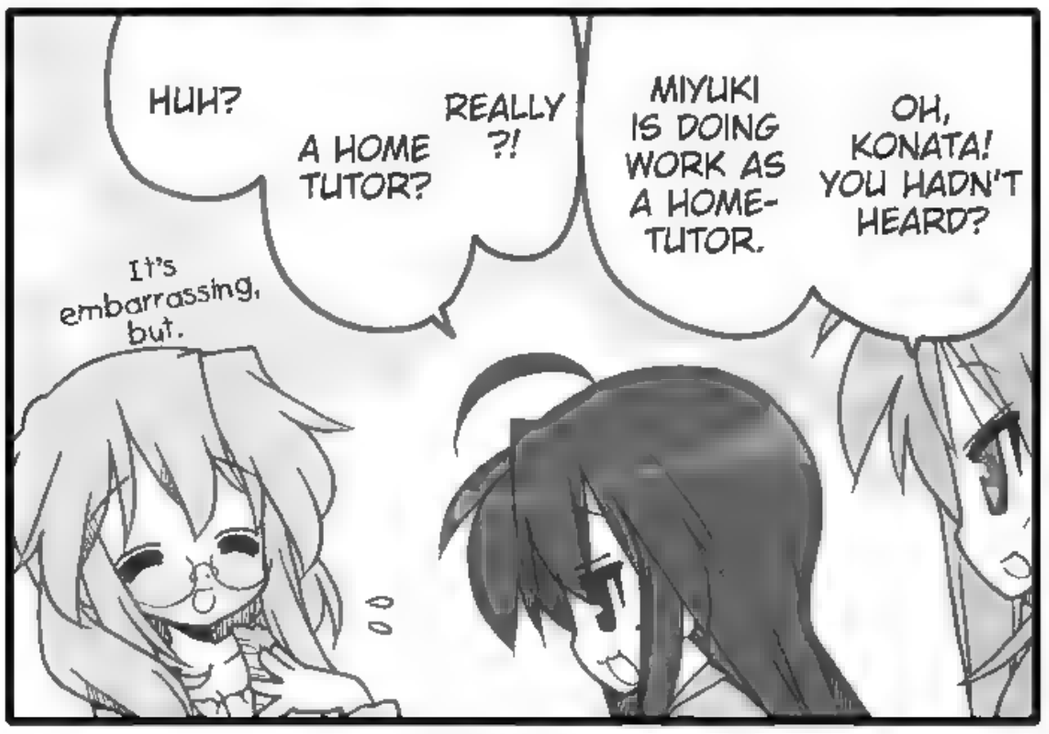



I'D RATHER YOU DIDN'T MAKE STRANGE, HARD-TO-UNDERSTAND JOKES THAT ARE DIFFERENT FROM NANAKO-SENSEI'S HARD-TO-UNDER-STAND JOKES!
A-AND HERE I WAS WORKING HARD TO PLAY ALONG WITH THE JOKE...
I-I'm sorry..
EHHH?! YOU MEAN YOU'D ACTUALLY CHARGE...?

that kind of consciousness



"SEN-SEI"?
IF YUTAKA-CHAN LEARNED FROM TAKARA-SENSEI, HER GRADES WOULD GO UP EVEN HIGHER!
OH, THAT'S RIGHT!
IT SHOULD BE ABOUT TIME FOR MID-TERMS, HUH?



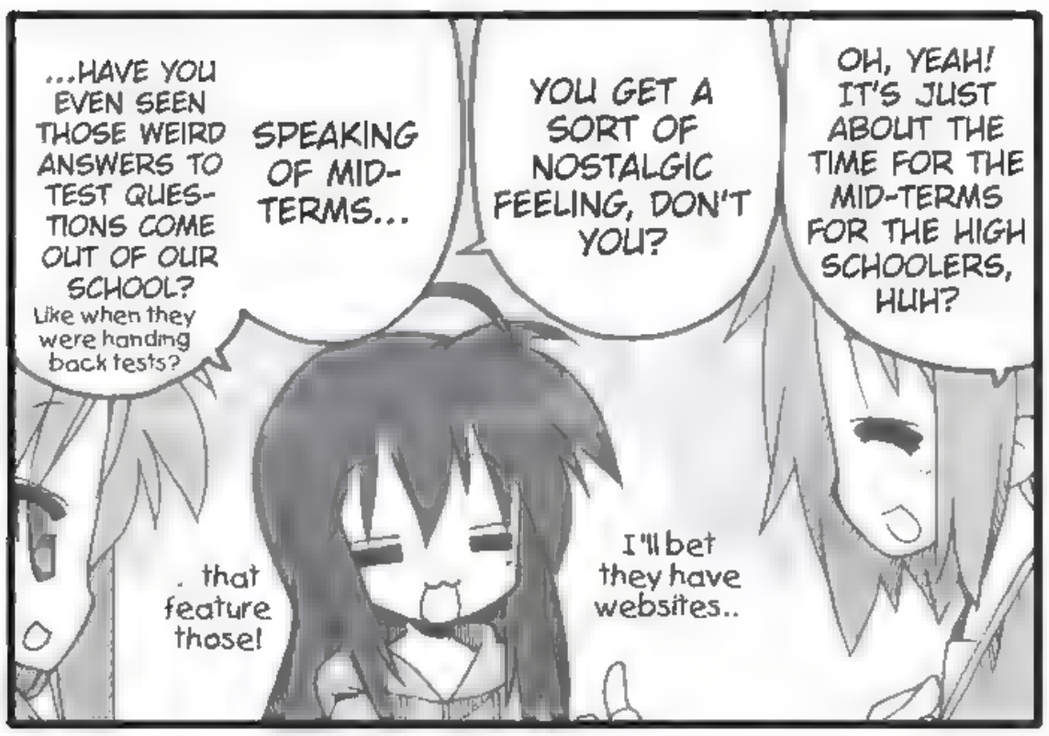
WHAT DOES THAT MIND OF YOURS THINK A HOME-TUTOR IS?
But in many ways that work fits Miyuki-san
DOESN'T THAT GIVE YOU EROTIC IMAGES?
FIDGET FIDGET FIDGET
It makes me strangely shy.

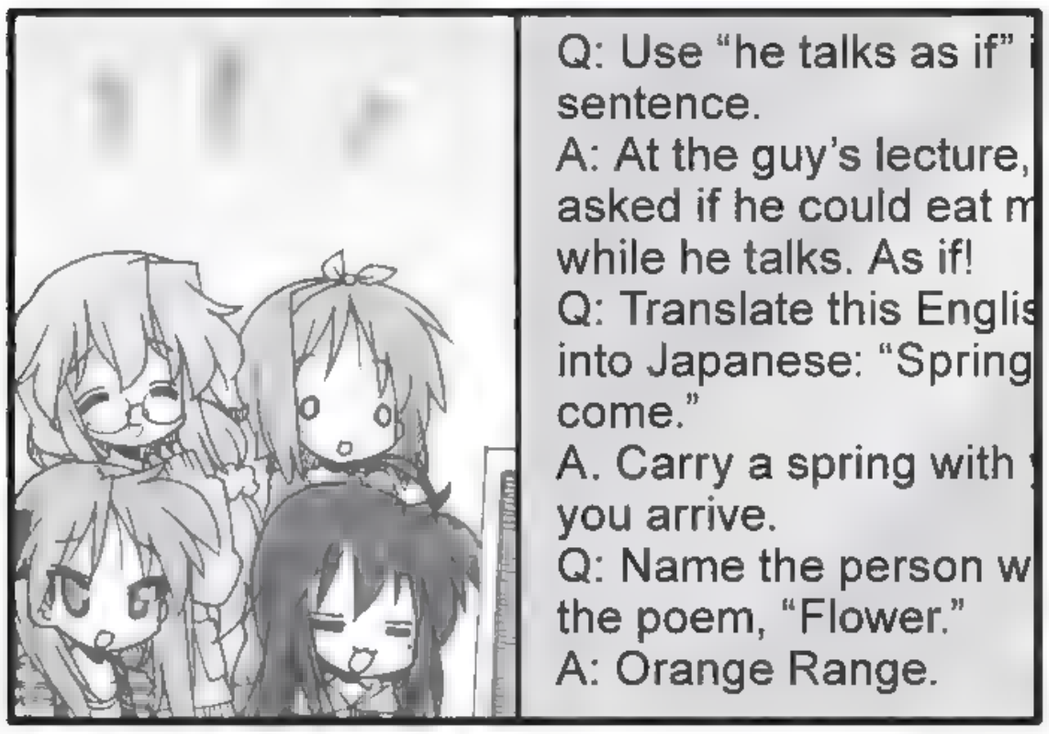
Kou Yasaka

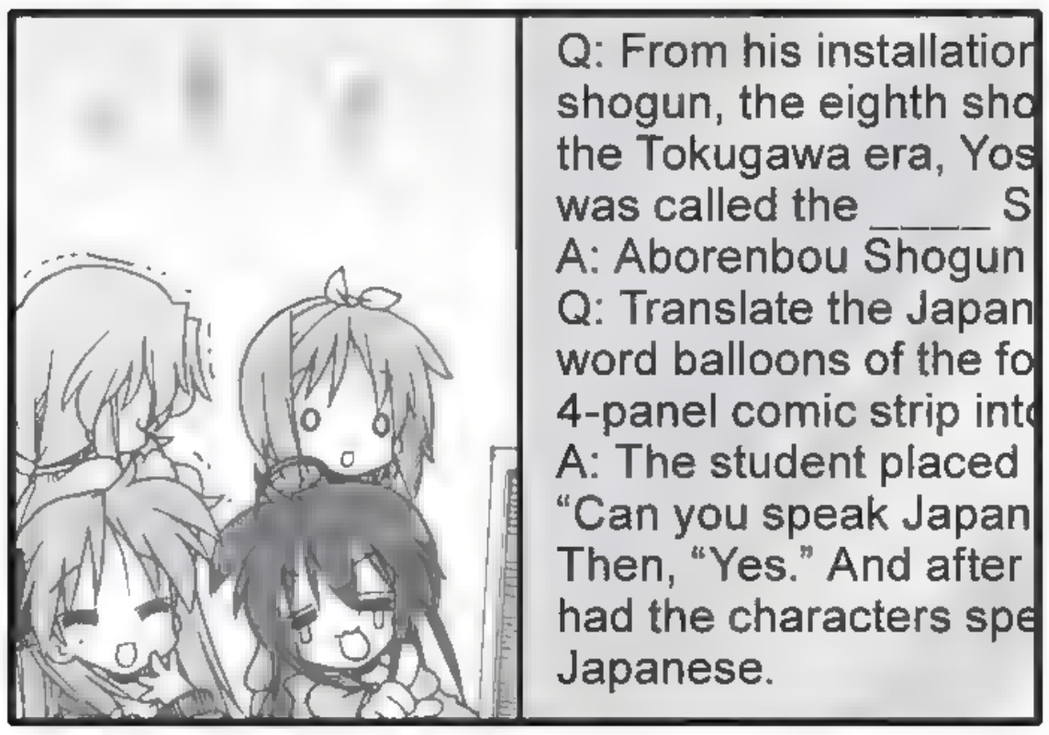
Yamato Nagamori

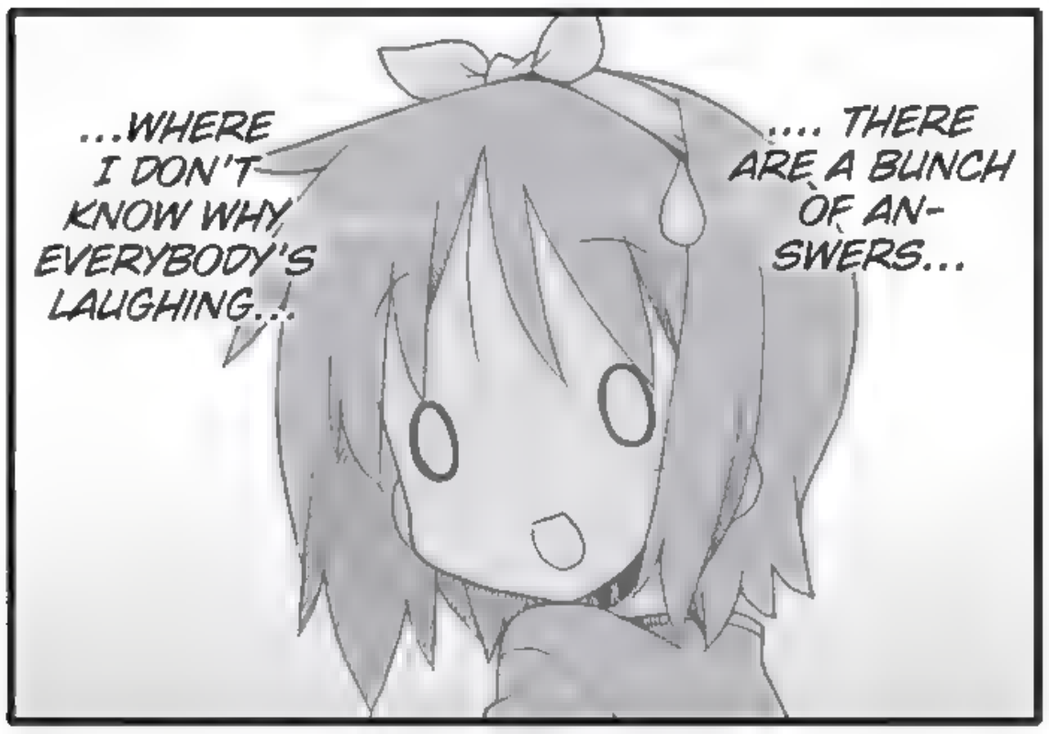
episode 225
brilliant colors 2

right up to the line


...HAVE YOU EVEN SEEN THOSE WEIRD ANSWERS TO TEST QUESTIONS COME OUT OF OUR SCHOOL?
Like when they were handing back tests?
SPEAKING OF MID-TERMS...
YOU GET A SORT OF NOSTALGIC FEELING, DON'T YOU?
OH, YEAH! IT'S JUST ABOUT THE TIME FOR THE MID-TERMS FOR THE HIGH SCHOOLERS, HUH?
. that feature those!
I'll bet they have websites..

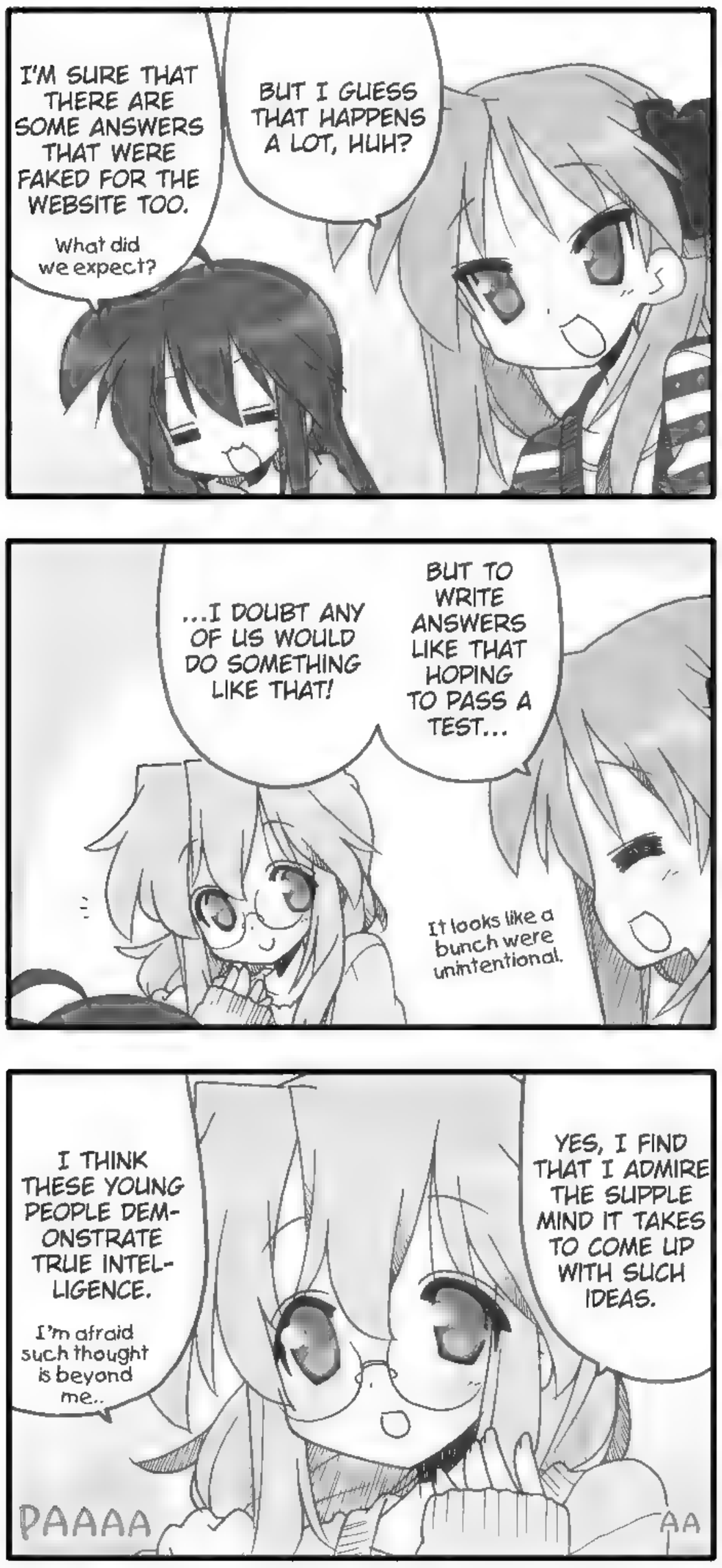




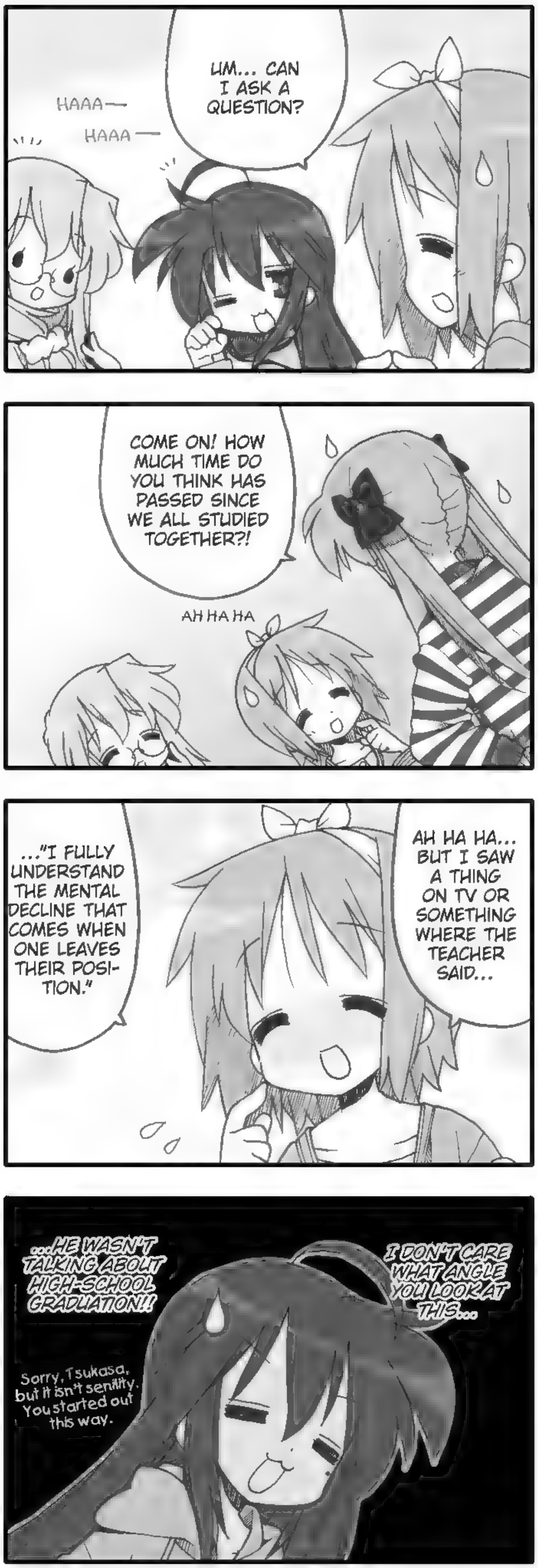


- Comptiq, March 2010 issue

worthy of note


I'M SURE THAT THERE ARE SOME ANSWERS THAT WERE FAKED FOR THE WEBSITE TOO.
What did we expect?
BUT I GUESS THAT HAPPENS A LOT, HUH?
...I DOUBT ANY OF US WOULD DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
BUT TO WRITE ANSWERS LIKE THAT HOPING TO PASS A TEST...
It looks like a bunch were unintentional.
I THINK THESE YOUNG PEOPLE DEM-ONSTRATE TRUE INTEL-LIGENCE.
I'm afraid such thought is beyond me..
YES, I FIND THAT I ADMIRE THE SUPPLE MIND IT TAKES TO COME UP WITH SUCH IDEAS.
PAAAA
AA
...WE NEVER THOUGHT OF...
SHE THINKS ON LEVELS...
WOOOOW...

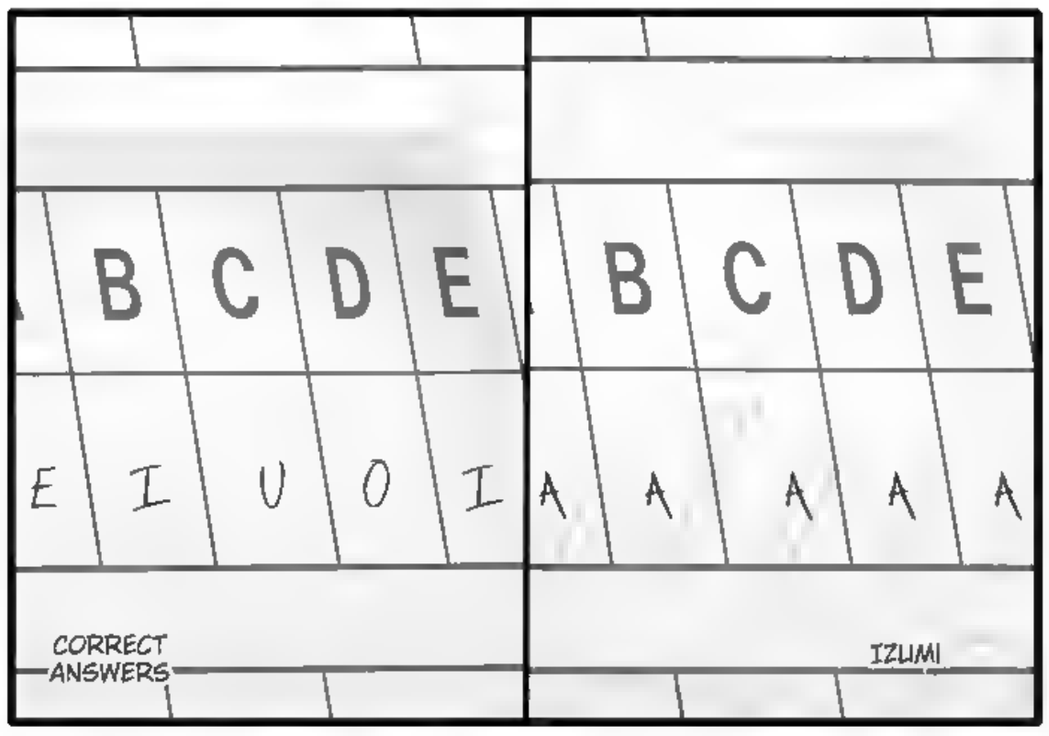
time flies

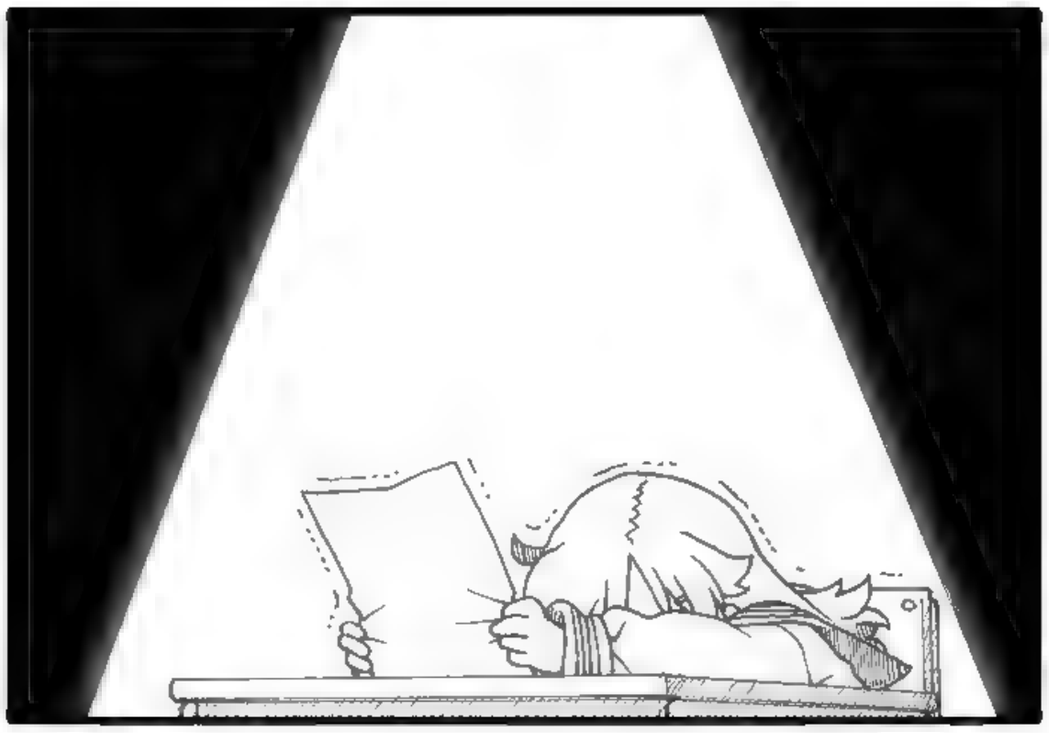

UM... CAN I ASK A QUESTION?
HAAA—
HAAA—
COME ON! HOW MUCH TIME DO YOU THINK HAS PASSED SINCE WE ALL STUDIED TOGETHER?!
AH HA HA
...."I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE MENTAL DECLINE THAT COMES WHEN ONE LEAVES THEIR POSI-TION."
AH HA HA... BUT I SAW A THING ON TV OR SOMETHING WHERE THE TEACHER SAID...
...HE WASN'T TALKING ABOUT HIGH-SCHOOL GRADUATION!!
I DON'T CARE WHAT ANGLE YOU LOOK AT THIS...
Sorry, Tsukasa, but it isn't senility. You started out this way.

eel

OKAY, I'M HAND-ING BACK TESTS TODAY.
RE-TURN-ING THE TEST ...

WHOA! YOU'RE SMART!
I HAD NO IDEA, SO I JUST ANSWERED THEM ALL WITH THE SAME MULTIPLE-CHOICE LETTER.
That way I'd get at least one wrong answer right.
With luck, you may get two right!
OH, YEAH! YEAH! IZUMI, WHAT DID YOU HAVE FOR IT?
COME TO THINK OF IT, THIS QUES-TION USING SYMBOLS WAS HARD!
TEST ANSWER SHEET

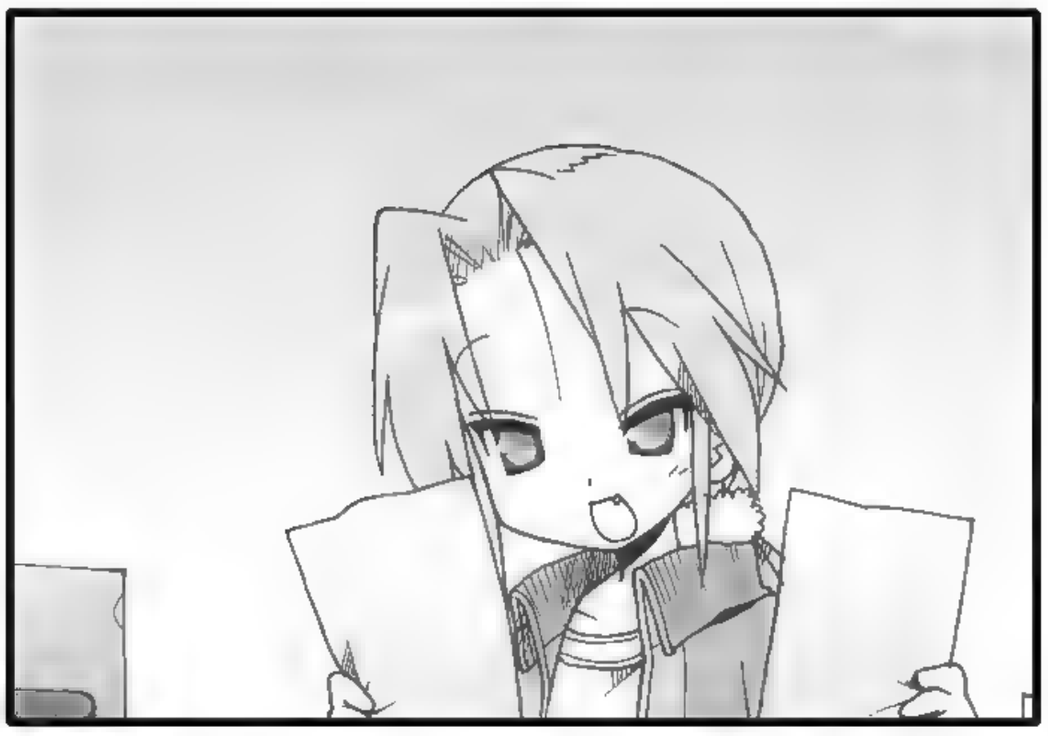

B C D E
E I U O I
B C D E
A A A A A
CORRECT ANSWERS
IZUMI

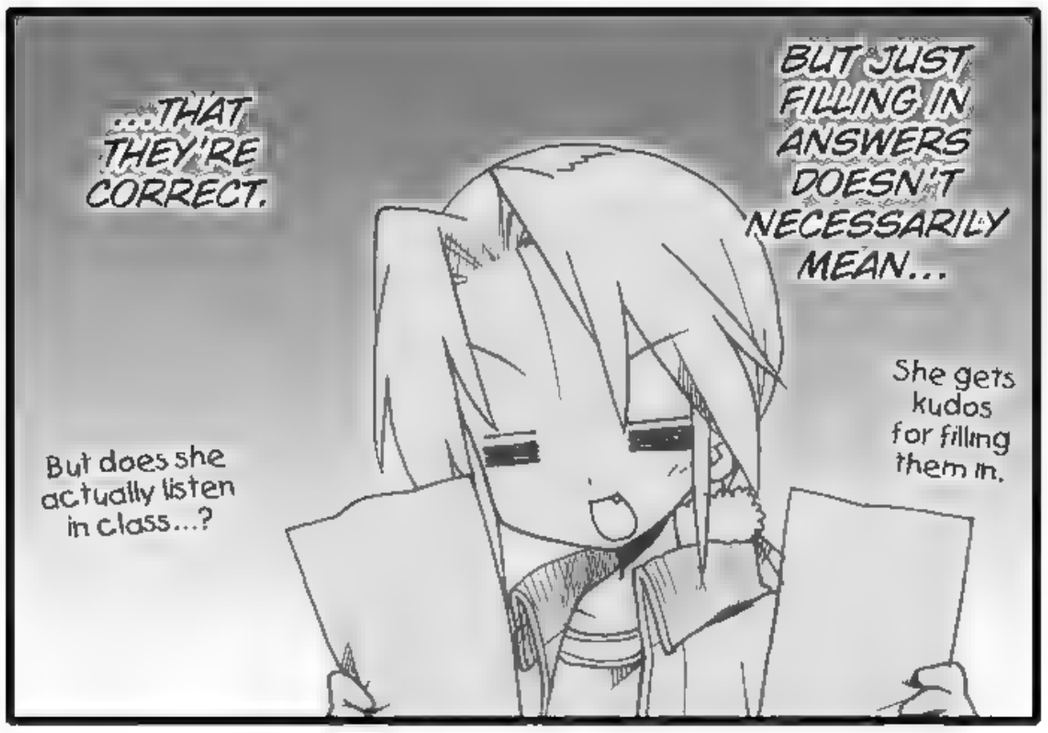


error

WAS THIS TEST REALLY ALL THAT DIFFICULT?
Give this a little effort, huh?
YOU KNOW, THOSE TESTS WHERE A LOT IS LEFT BLANK RE-ALLY STAND OUT.

SHE FILLED IN ALL THE ANSWERS!
And with such neat hand-writing!
OH, WAKASE! THAT'S THE STUDENT-BODY PRESIDENT FOR YOU!

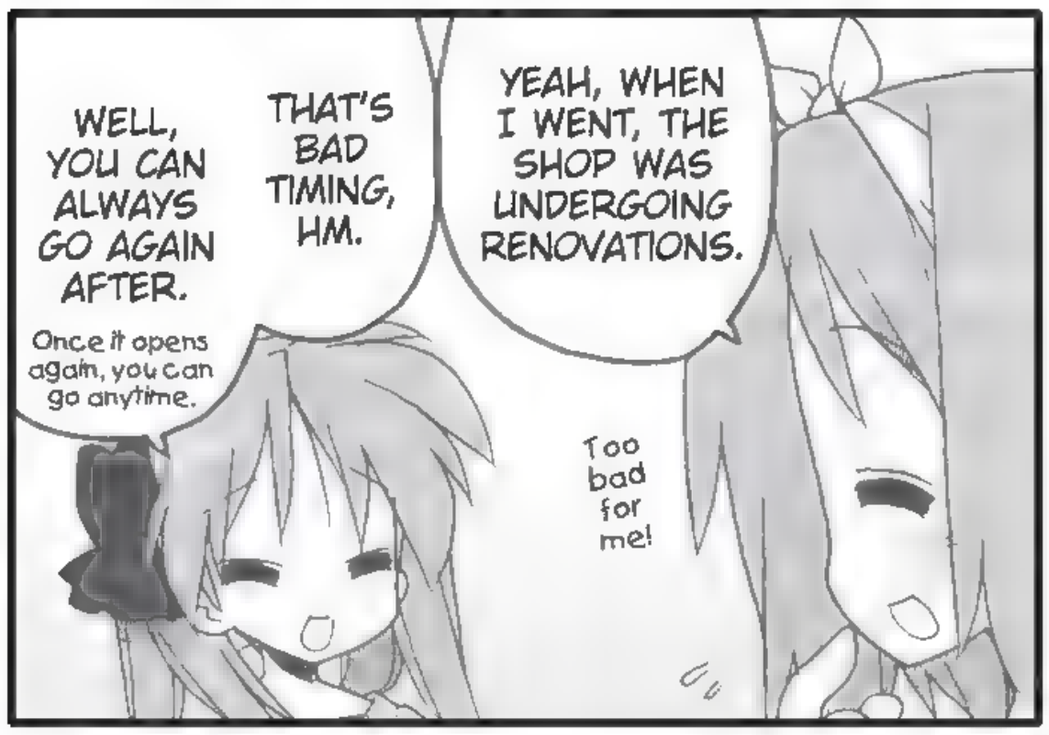



...THAT THEY'RE CORRECT.
BUT JUST FILLING IN ANSWERS DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN...
But does she actually listen in class...?
She gets kudos for filling them in.

Yutaka Kobayakawa

episode 226 each and every expectation

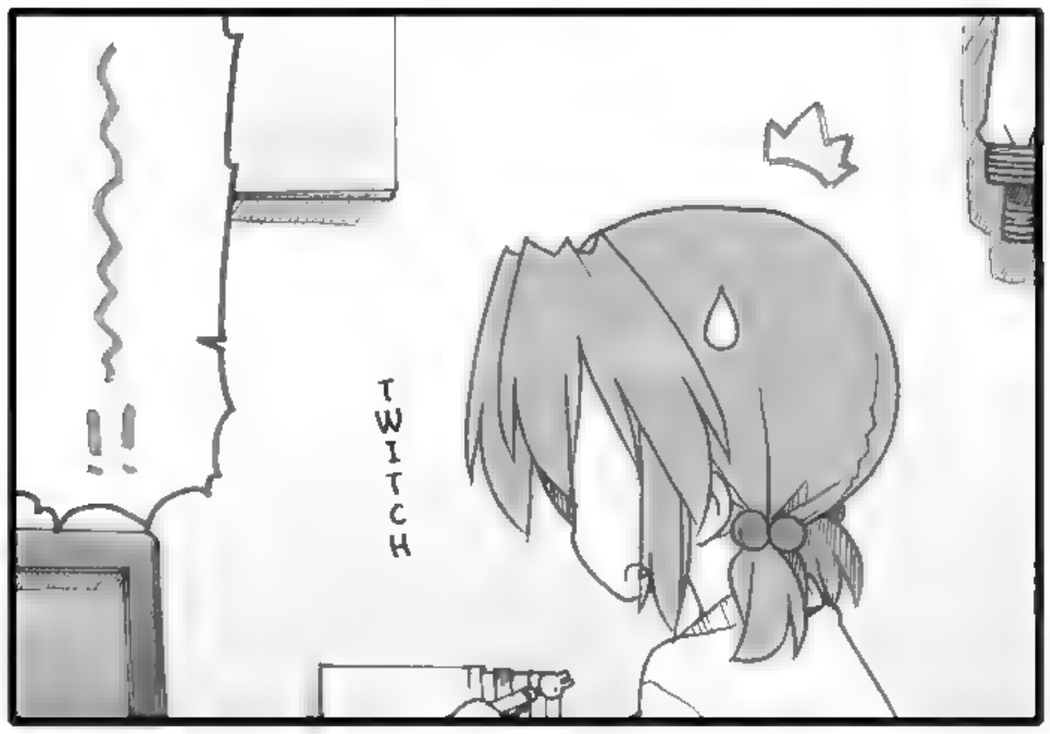
revolving

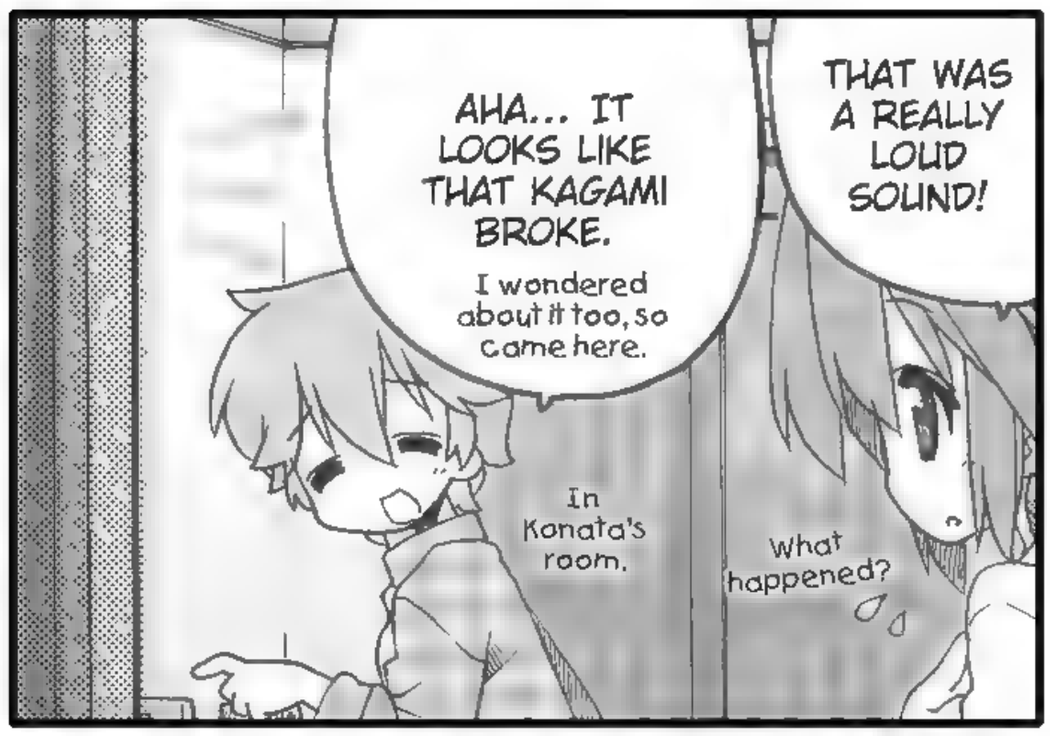

WELL, YOU CAN ALWAYS GO AGAIN AFTER.
Once it opens again, you can go anytime.
THAT'S BAD TIMING, HM.
YEAH, WHEN I WENT, THE SHOP WAS UNDERGOING RENOVATIONS.
Too bad for me!

IT'S HARD LIVING IN TOUGH ECONOMIC TIMES.
YEAH. WHEN I WENT BACK, IT HAD RENOVATED INTO A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT STORE...
I used to love that store!

- **Comptiq, April 2010 issue**

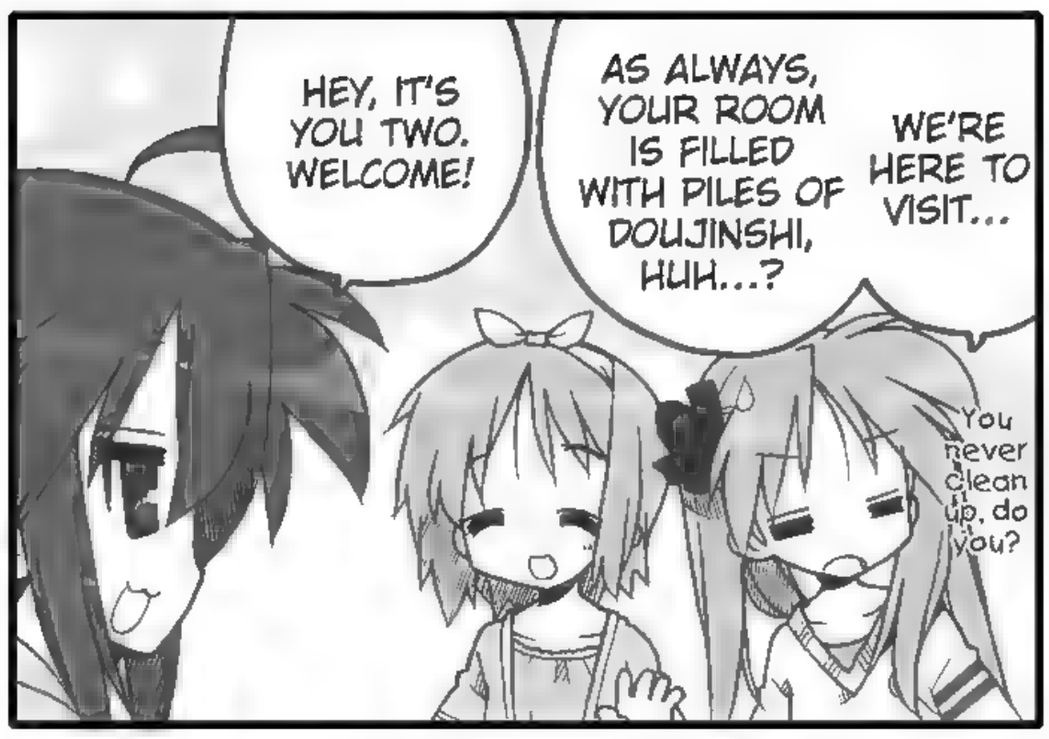
imagining from words




AHA... IT LOOKS LIKE THAT KAGAMI BROKE.
I wondered about it too, so came here.
In Konata's room.
THAT WAS A REALLY LOUD SOUND!
What happened?

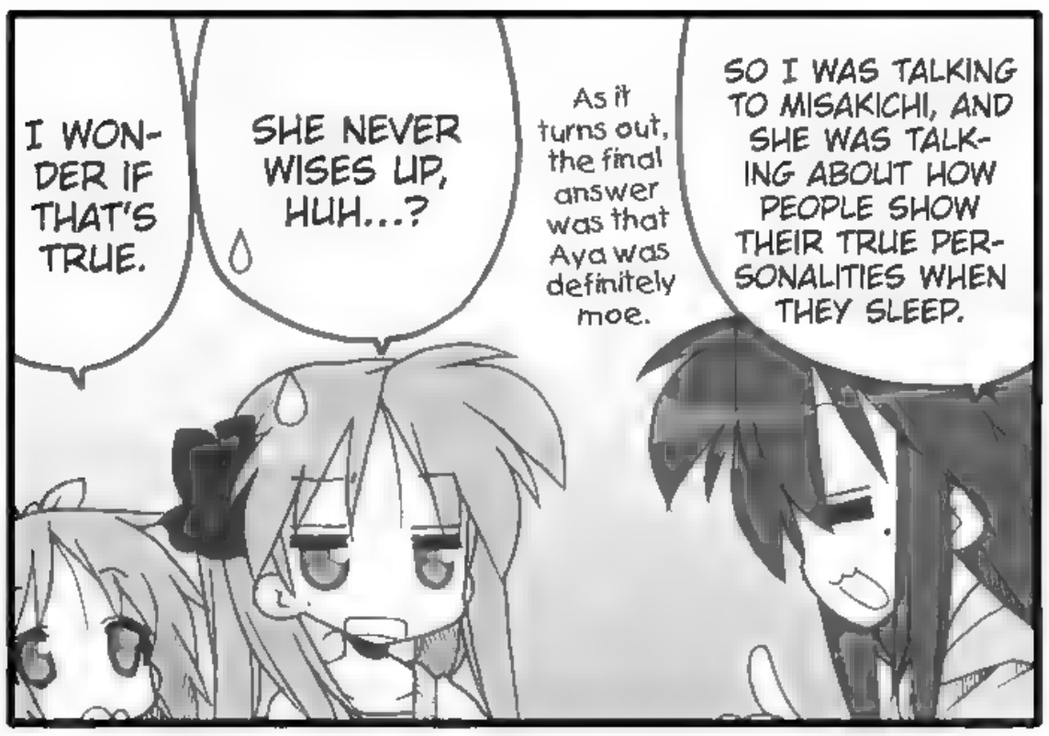
KAGAMI="MIRROR."

everybody's friend


HEY, IT'S YOU TWO. WELCOME!
AS ALWAYS, YOUR ROOM IS FILLED WITH PILES OF DOUJINSHI, HUH...?
WE'RE HERE TO VISIT...
You never clean up, do you?

EH?! IS THAT RIGHT?
IN EXTREME CASES EVEN A FORM MADE OF THREE CIRCLES COULD POSSIBLY GET YOU SUED.
I've never actually seen anybody sued, but.
DEPENDS ON WHAT IT IS.
IS THIS KIND OF THING ALL RIGHT?
I HEAR THE INDUSTRY LEADERS ARE CRACKING DOWN ON COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT.
That one magazine falls more or less into the "no problem" category.

one's nature


I WONDER IF THAT'S TRUE.
SHE NEVER WISES UP, HUH...?
As it turns out, the final answer was that Aya was definitely moe.
SO I WAS TALKING TO MISAKICHI, AND SHE WAS TALKING ABOUT HOW PEOPLE SHOW THEIR TRUE PERSONALITIES WHEN THEY SLEEP.

Huh. ?
THAT IS INDEED MUCH LIKE KAGAMI!
That is her true personality.
WHEN WE WERE LITTLE AND SLEEPING IN THE SAME BED, THERE WERE TIMES WHEN I'D WAKE UP SHIVERING.

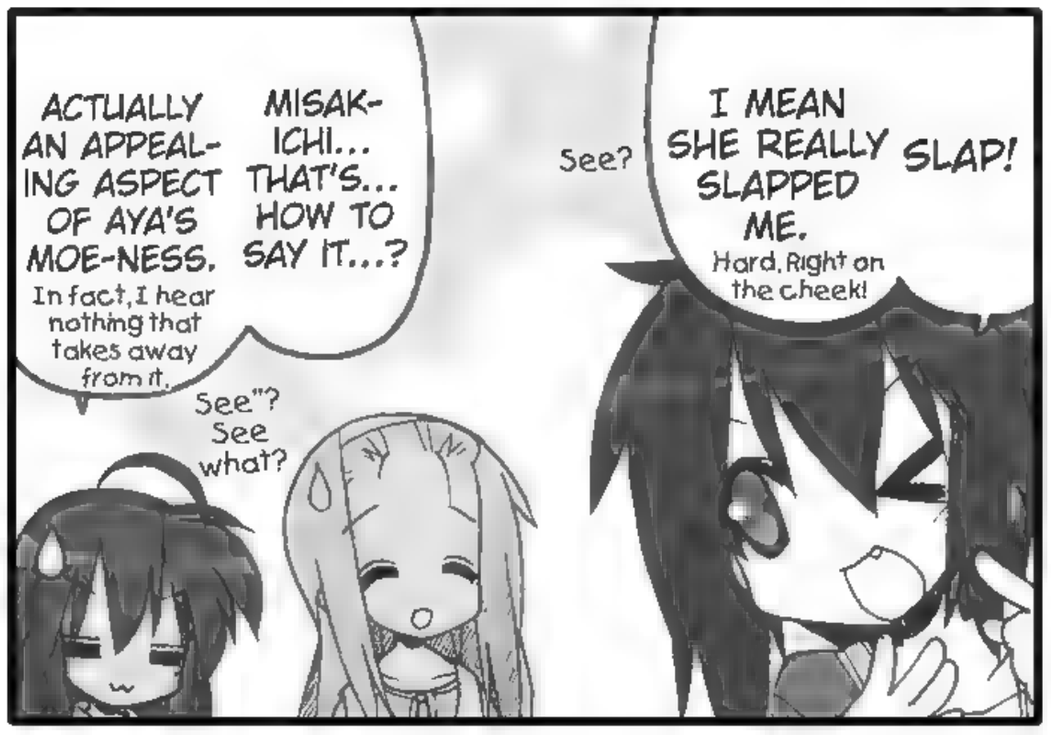
Ahh.. I hogged all the covers. I'll have to cover Tsukasa back up again
Warm.
POFF
THEN, THEN NEXT TIME I WOKE UP, I'D BE COVERED JUST LIKE I SHOULD BE.

CAN YOU STOP GETTING CARRIED AWAY WITH STORIES THAT EMBARRASS PEOPLE?!
First Kusakabe, now Tsukasa...
Admirable Kagami = Moe!
WHAT A NICE STORY!
So what's the true answer?
SO I THINK THAT PROVES THAT ONEE-CHAN IS A REALLY NICE PERSON.

savagery

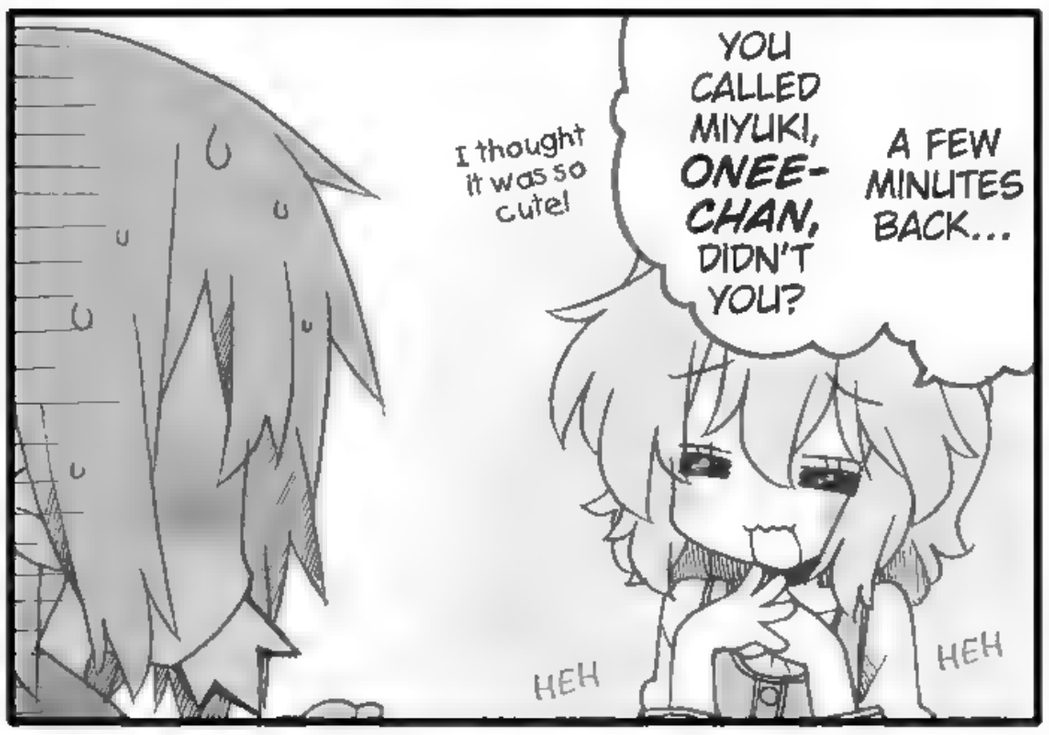
NO!! I'M TALKING ABOUT HOW PEOPLE'S TRUE SELVES COME OUT WHEN THEY'RE ASLEEP!
SO WHEN SHE GETS MAD, SHE GETS SCARY?
Of course it'd be all your fault, Misakichi, for making her mad.
EVERYBODY SAYS THAT. BUT YOU KNOW, AYA MAY LOOK LIKE SHE WOULDN'T HURT A FLY...
Ehhhh?!

AND YOU KNOW WHAT SHE DID?!
A WHILE BACK, WHEN AYA WAS DOZING OFF AT MY PLACE, I PLAYED A LITTLE PRANK LIKE A MOSQUITO WAS BUZZING BY HER EAR.
Mnbl...
BZZZZZZZZ.....

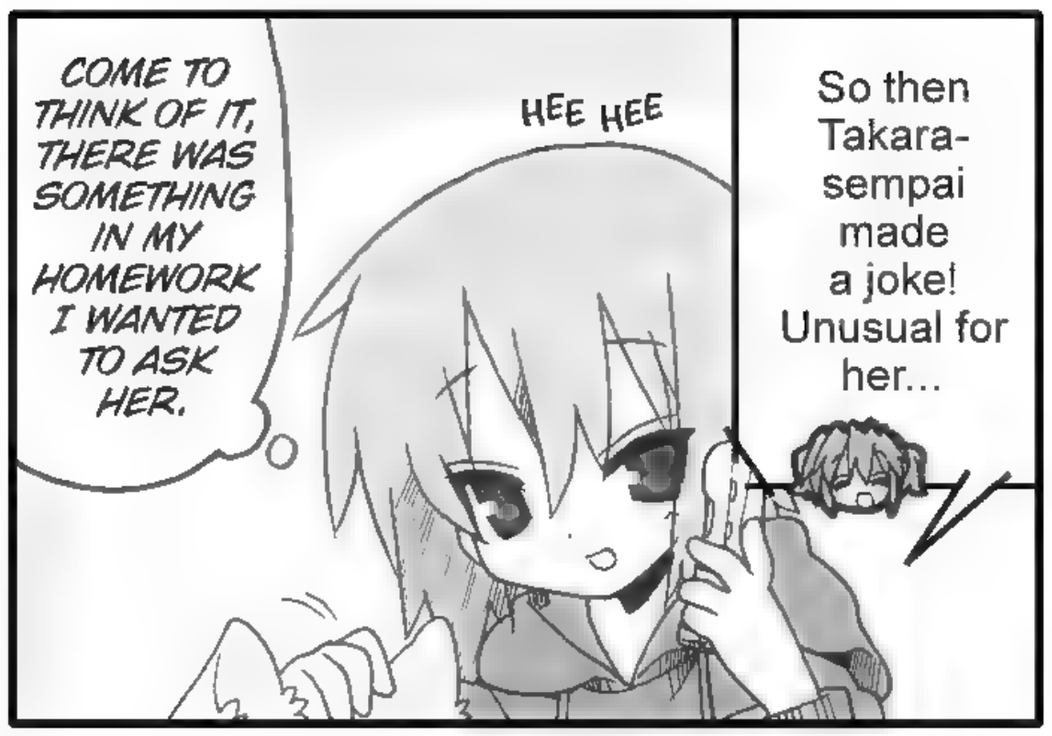

ACTUALLY AN APPEALING ASPECT OF AYA'S MOE-NESS.
In fact, I hear nothing that takes away from it.
MISAKICHI... THAT'S... HOW TO SAY IT...?
See"? See what?
See?
I MEAN SHE REALLY SLAPPED ME.
SLAP!
Hard. Right on the cheek!

the part you're curious about

..... AH! THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
Then, if you don't mind..
WHY DON'T YOU HAVE SOME TEA WHILE YOU'RE WAITING?
I'm not doing anything in particular.
SINCE YOU'VE COME ALL THE WAY HERE, AND MIYUKI WILL PROBABLY BE HOME ANY MINUTE...



genes


COME TO THINK OF IT, THERE WAS SOMETHING IN MY HOMEWORK I WANTED TO ASK HER.
HEE HEE
So then Takara-sempai made a joke! Unusual for her...

OH, DEAR. MIYUKI IS OUT AT THE MOMENT. IT IS YOUR SCHOOL WORK?
HELLO... UM... I WANTED TO ASK ONEE-CHAN SOMETHING TODAY...
OH, MINAMI-CHAN! WELCOME!
Um.. Yes...
TMP TMP

NOW, WHEN YOU ASK MIYUKI-SENSEI TO TEACH YOU, IT'S 500 YEN PER QUESTION.
Just kidding!
Since you're so cute, Minami-chan, you get a 20% discount!
WELL THANKS FOR THE BUSINESS!

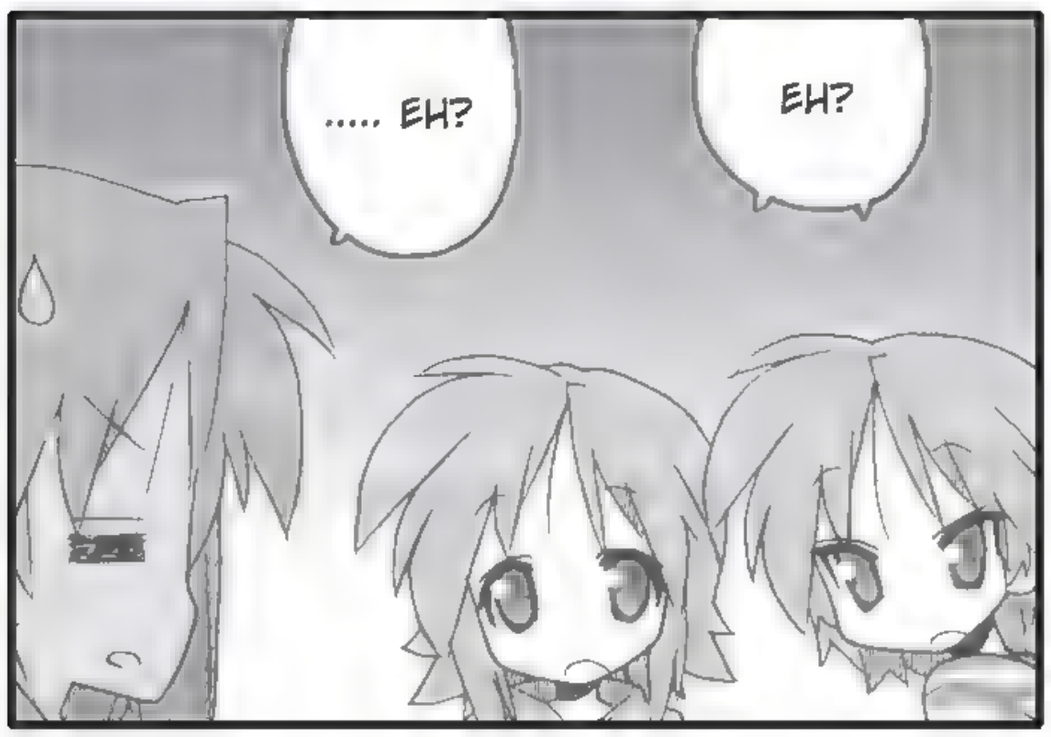
Minami Iwasaki

Lucky☆Star

episode 227
parallel lines

I DID NOT! I SAID, "ROODO!"
AND WHEN GIVING DIRECTIONS TO THE FREEWAY, SHE SAID SOMETHING LIKE "HIGH-SPEED DOORO"!!
LISTEN TO THIS, KAGAMI! A FOREIGNER ASKED MATSURI FOR DIREC-TIONS...

I wonder if the foreigner under-stood.
AH HA HA! BUT OF COURSE, BOTH ARE WRONG, YOU KNOW?
You're just making up the whole story!
You did too! She **thinks** she said "roodo"!

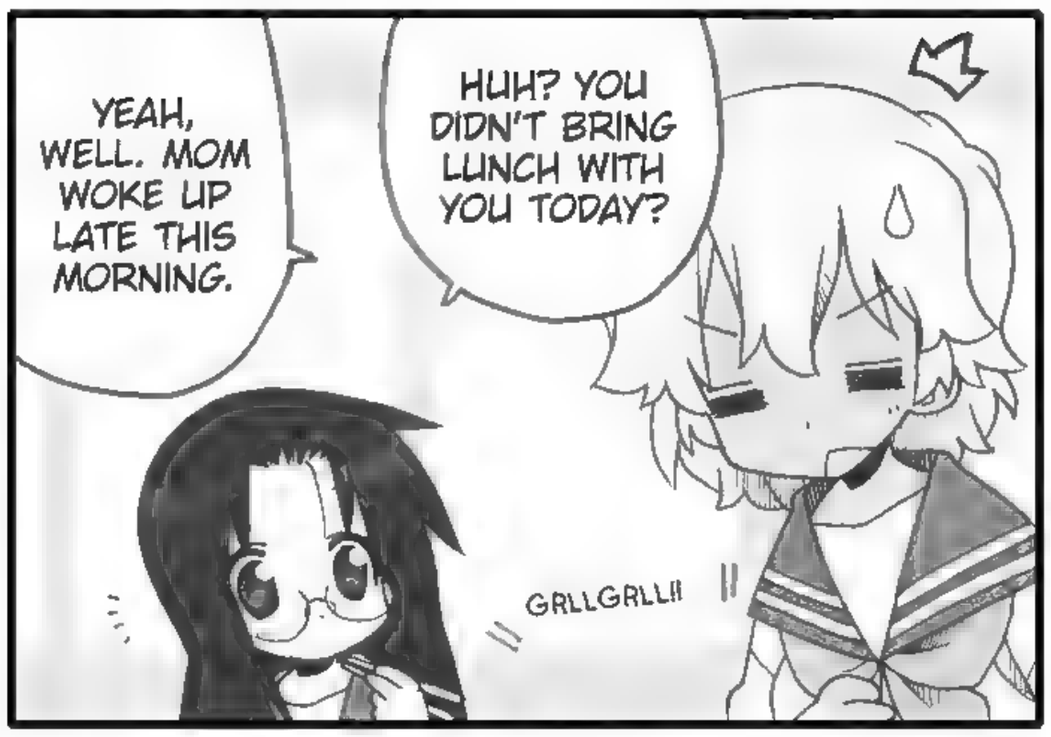


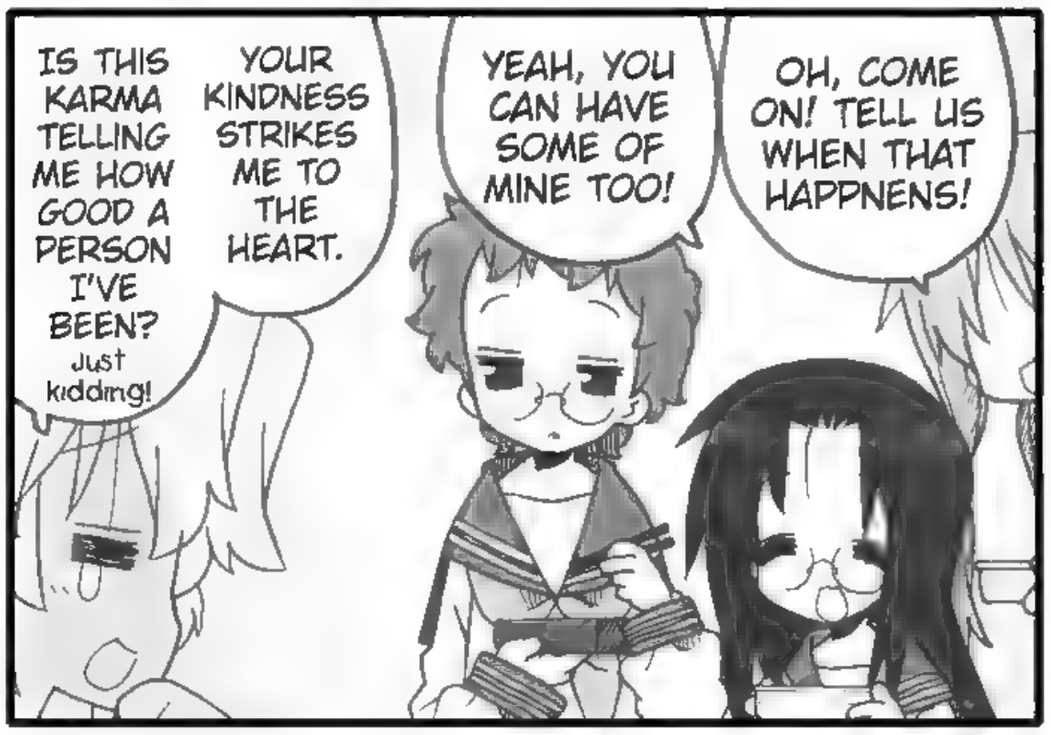
• Comptiq, April 2010 issue

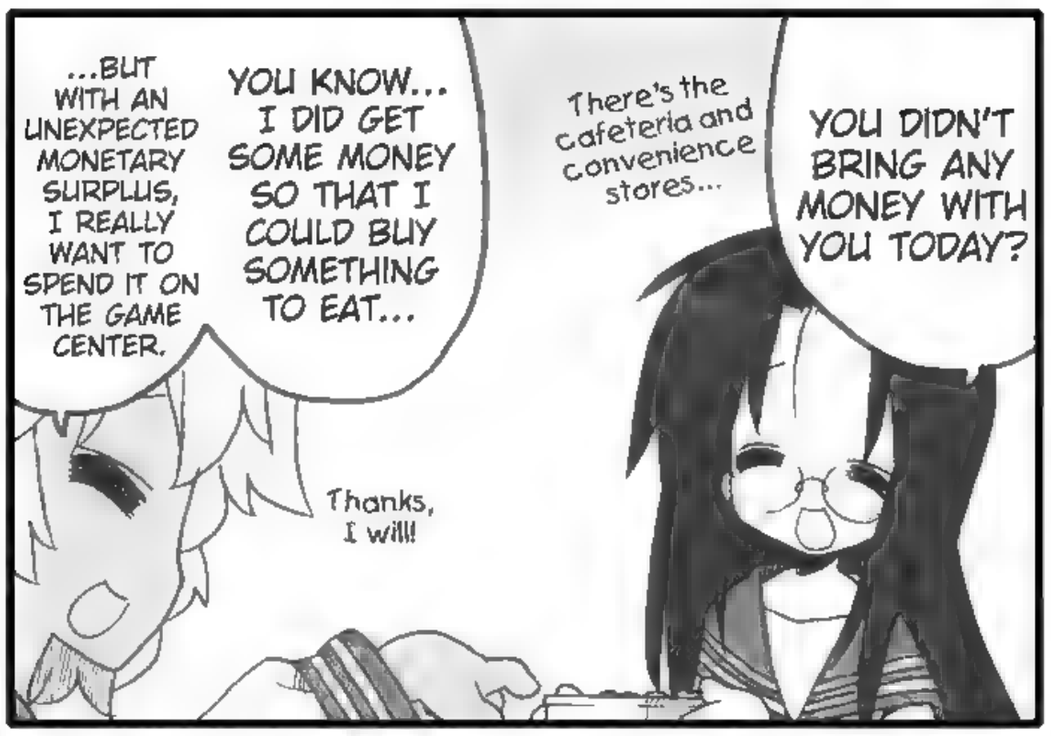
serious playtime

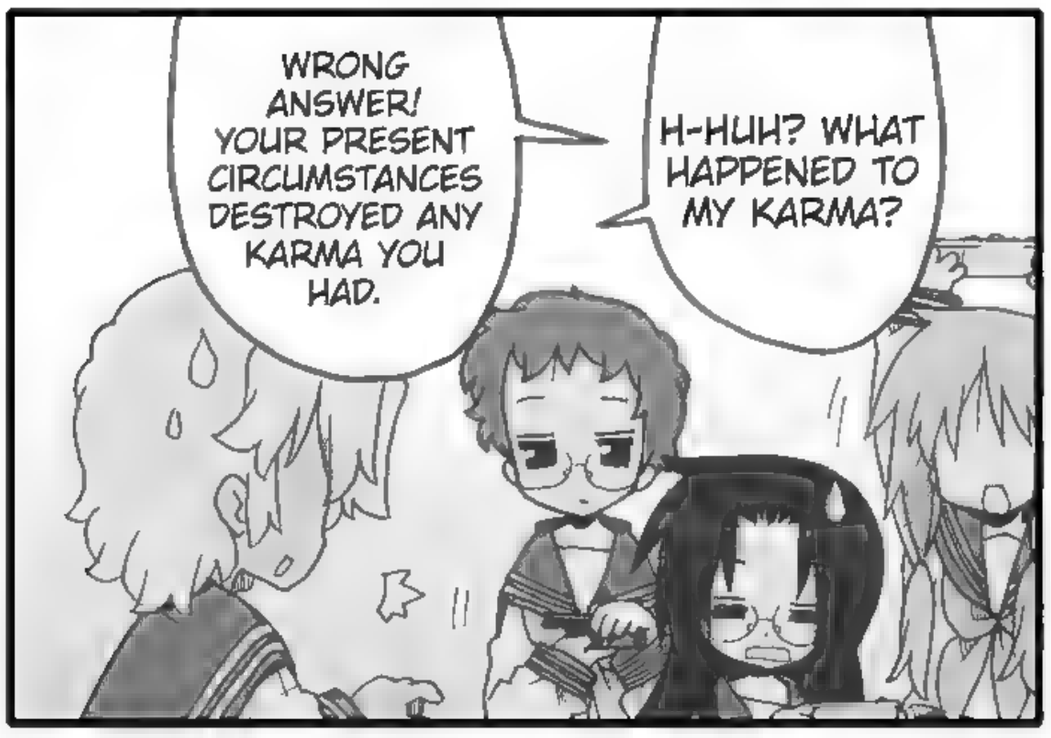
WOW... WAIT A MINUTE! WHY WOULD YOU GO SO FAR FOR A JOKE, NEE-SAN?!
This almost makes not seeing you for a half a year worth it!
OH?! WERE YOU SURPRISED! YAAY! I GOT YOU! I GOT YOU!
WHOOSH
Is that all?! I thought I was go-ing to be an aunt!

fuel costs

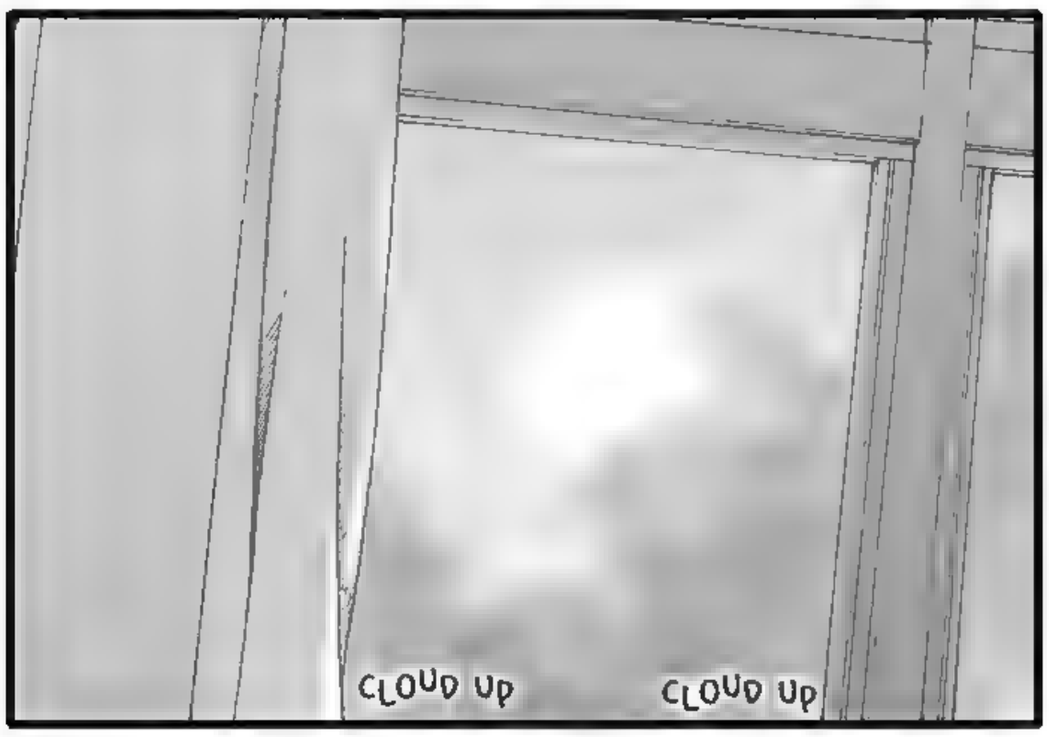


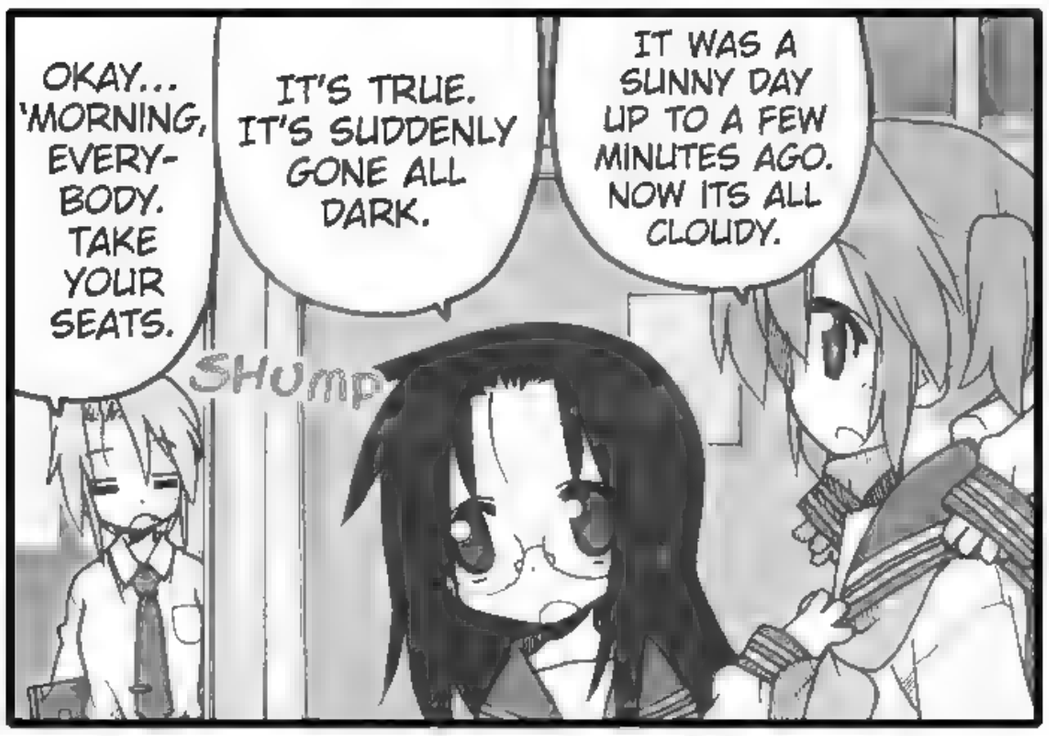

IS THIS KARMA TELLING ME HOW GOOD A PERSON I'VE BEEN? Just kidding!
YOUR KINDNESS STRIKES ME TO THE HEART.
YEAH, YOU CAN HAVE SOME OF MINE TOO!
OH, COME ON! TELL US WHEN THAT HAPPNENS!


...BUT WITH AN UNEXPECTED MONETARY SURPLUS, I REALLY WANT TO SPEND IT ON THE GAME CENTER.
YOU KNOW... I DID GET SOME MONEY SO THAT I COULD BUY SOMETHING TO EAT...
Thanks, I will!
There's the cafeteria and convenience stores...
YOU DIDN'T BRING ANY MONEY WITH YOU TODAY?

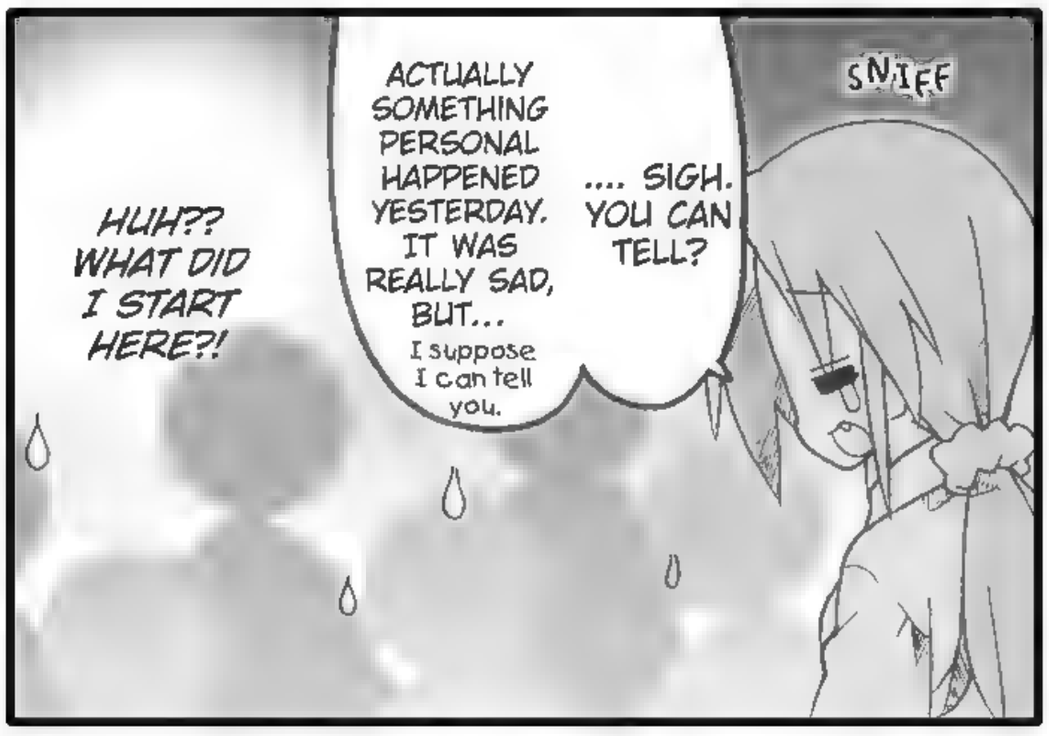


caught in the middle

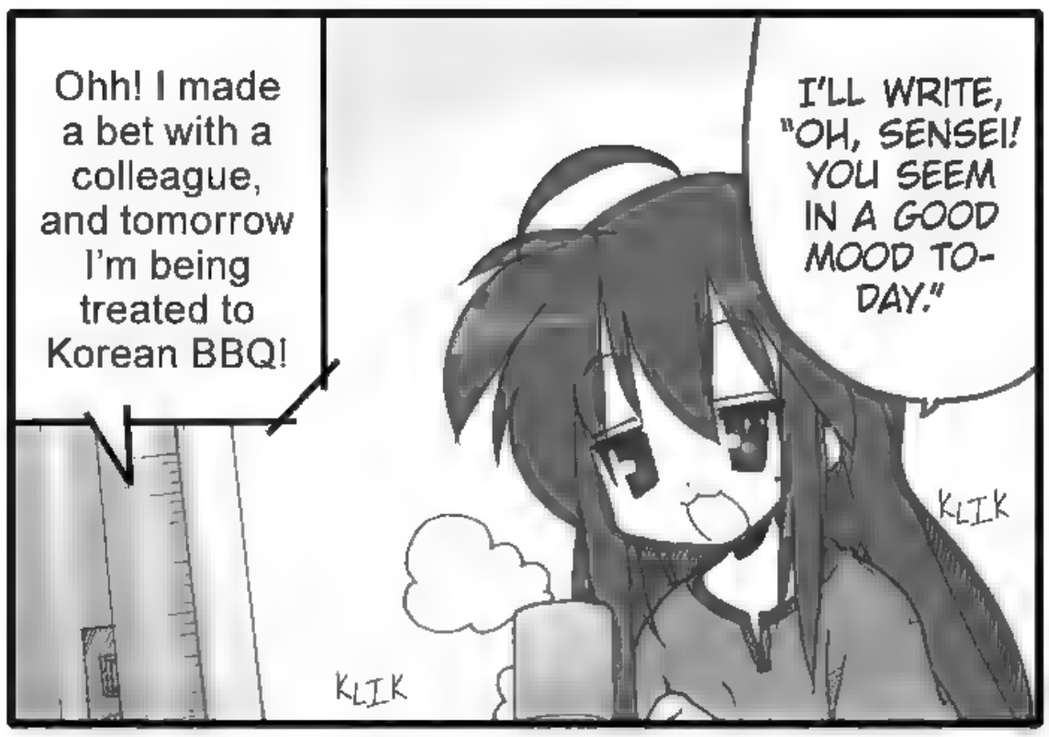



OKAY... 'MORNING, EVERY-BODY. TAKE YOUR SEATS.
IT'S TRUE. IT'S SUDDENLY GONE ALL DARK.
IT WAS A SUNNY DAY UP TO A FEW MINUTES AGO. NOW ITS ALL CLOUDY.
SHUMP

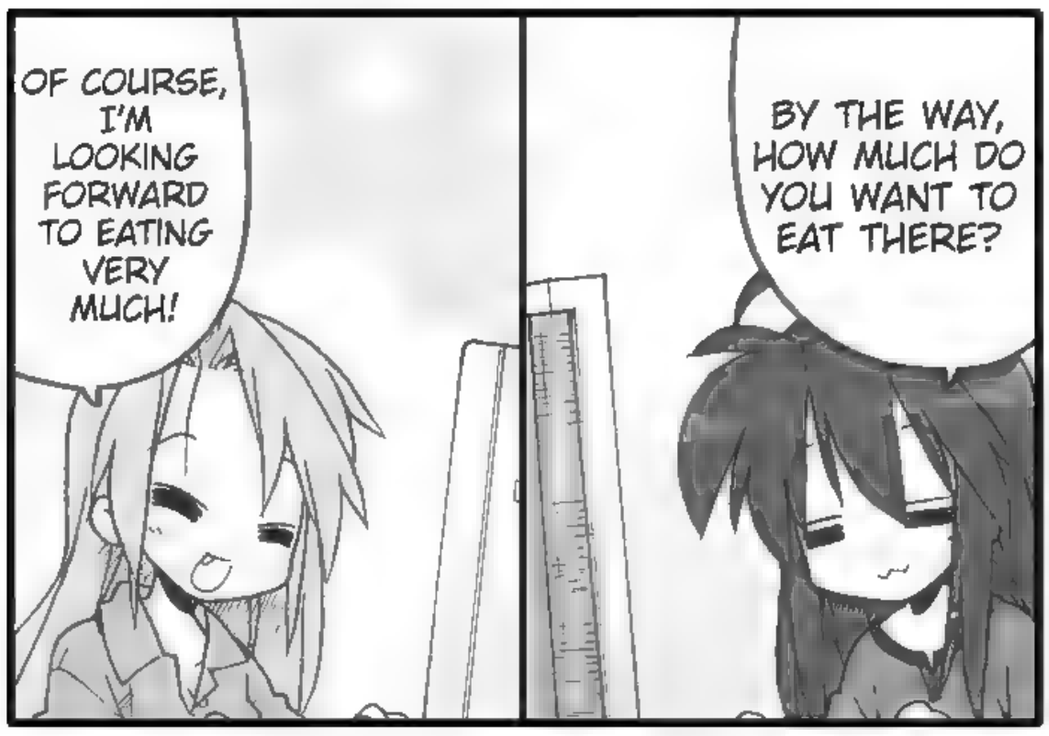
UM, SENSEI, AREN'T THINGS A LITTLE DARK UP THERE?
Sigh..
ALL RIGHT, FOR HOME ROOM...
AH! THE LIGHTS ARE ON EVERY-WHERE BUT THE HEAD OF THE CLASS-ROOM.

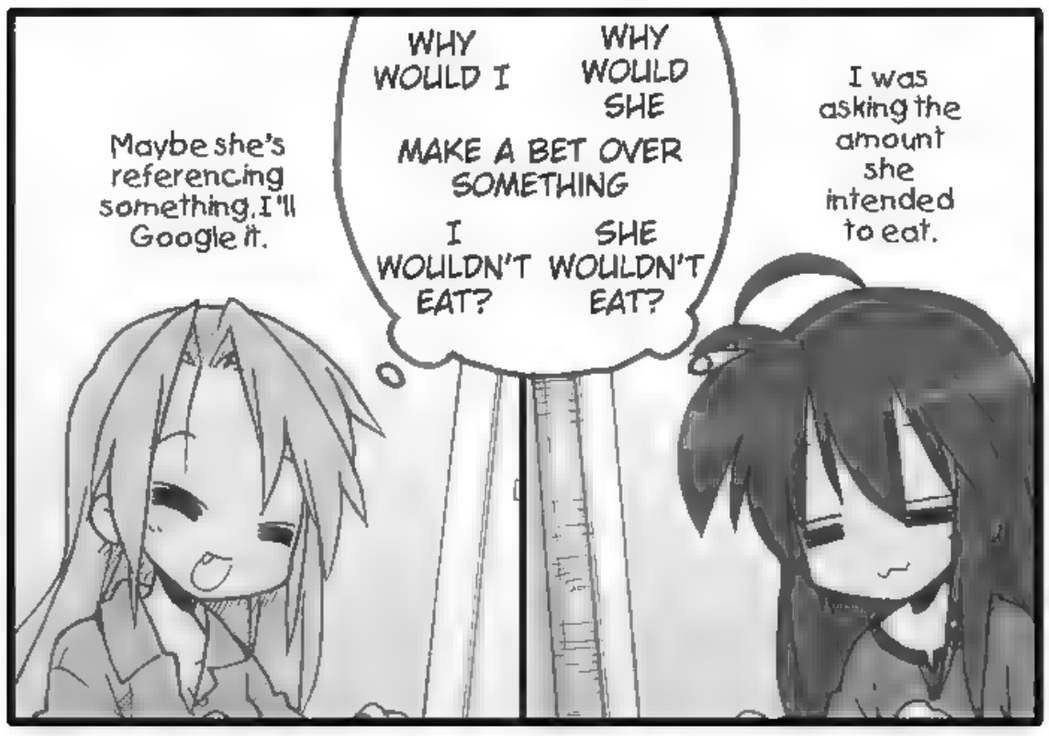

HUH?? WHAT DID I START HERE?!
ACTUALLY SOMETHING PERSONAL HAPPENED YESTERDAY. IT WAS REALLY SAD, BUT...
I suppose I can tell you.
.... SIGH. YOU CAN TELL?
SNIFF

how much...


Ohh! I made a bet with a colleague, and tomorrow I'm being treated to Korean BBQ!
I'LL WRITE, "OH, SENSEI! YOU SEEM IN A GOOD MOOD TO-DAY."
KLIK
KLIK

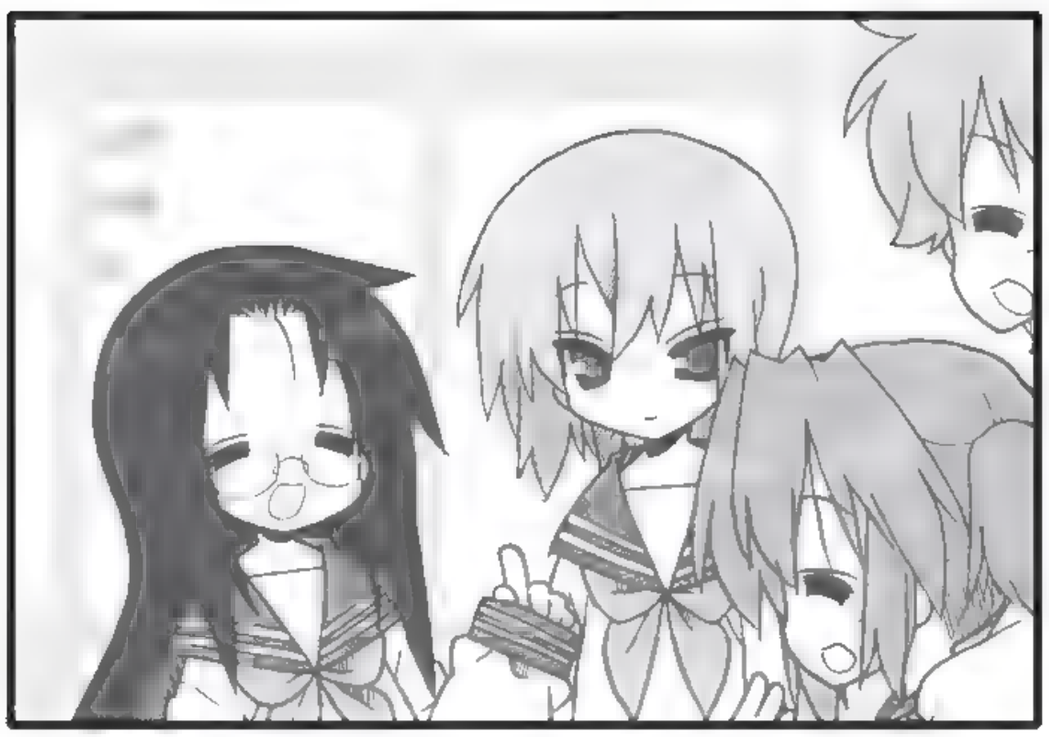
I'LL WRITE, "EH HEE HEE! THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS I LIKE BETTER, BUT I LIKE IT FINE!"
I've been drink-ing and I may be a little tipsy.
Hey, nice! But I didn't know you liked it enough to be so happy! (LOL)
KLIK
KLIK

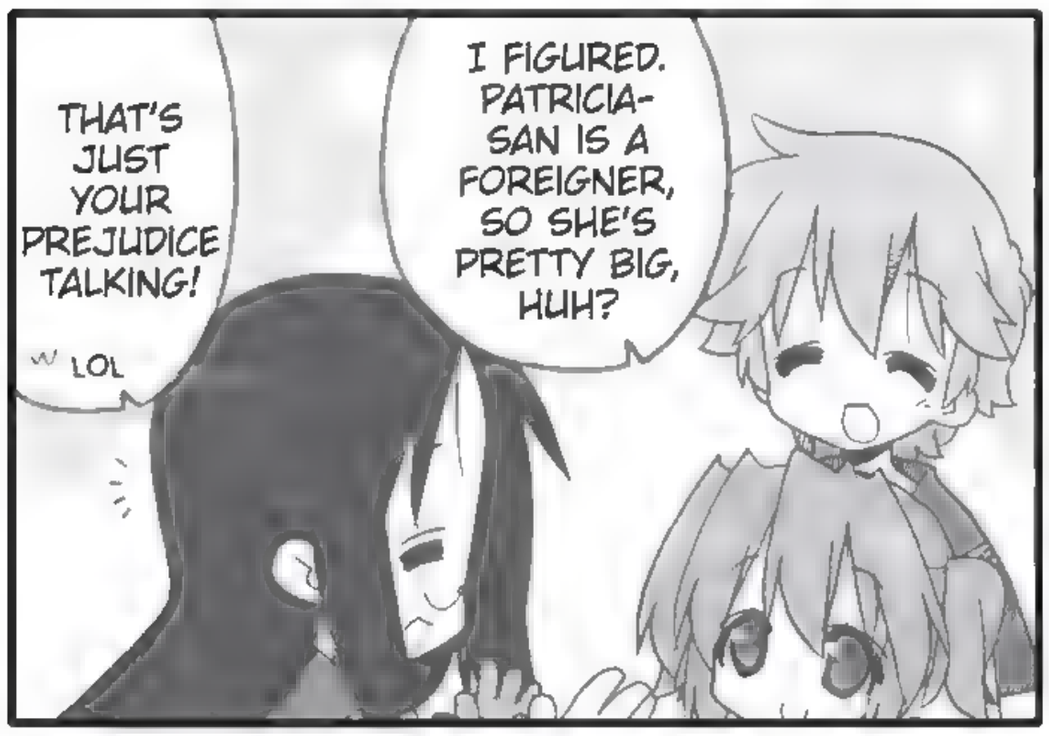



Maybe she's referencing something, I'll Google it.
WHY WOULD I
WHY WOULD SHE
MAKE A BET OVER SOMETHING
I WOULDN'T EAT?
SHE WOULDN'T EAT?
I was asking the amount she intended to eat.

Hiyori Tamura

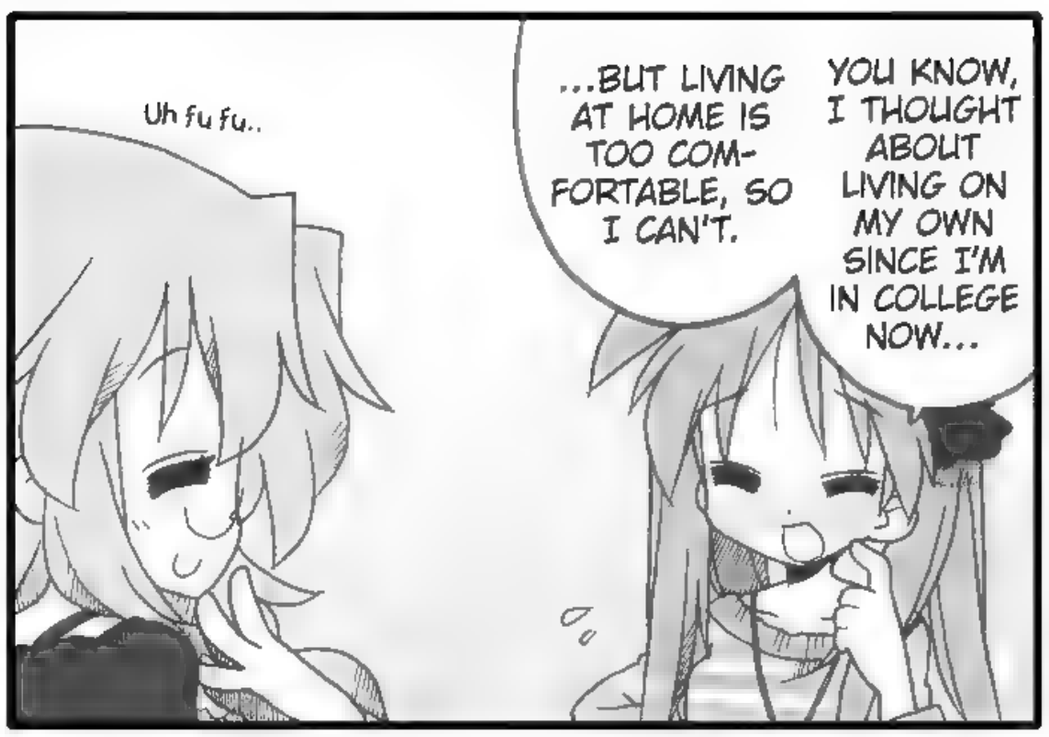
episode 228
the melancholy of the goddesses



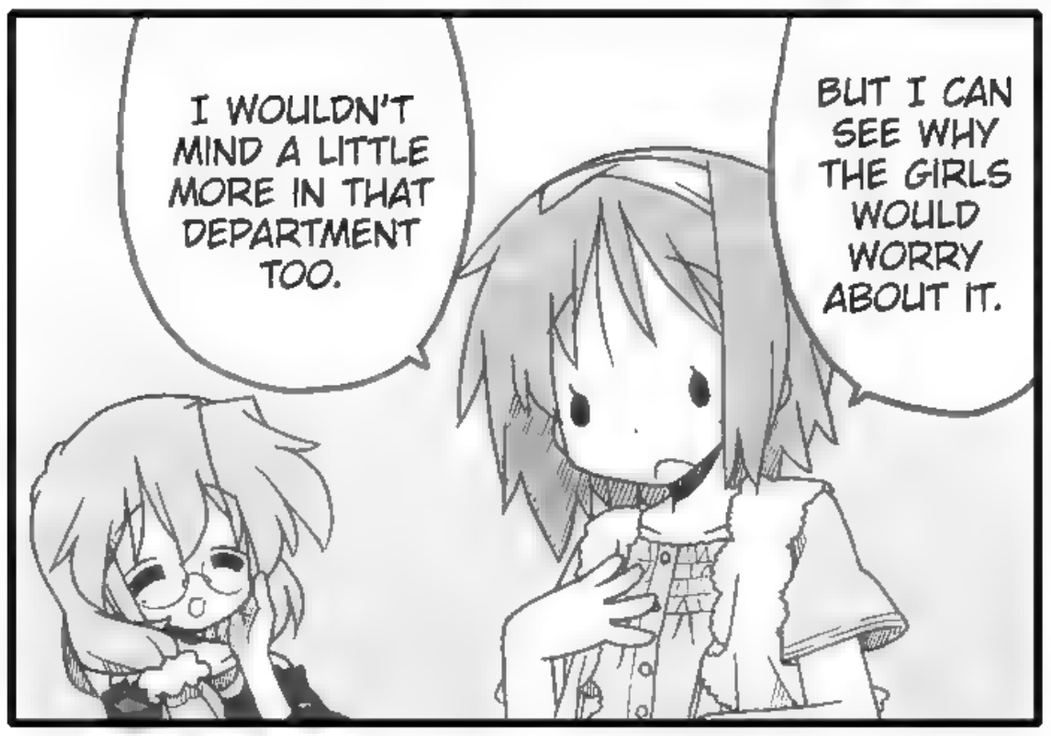


- Comptiq, May 2010 issue

living comfort



consumer demand

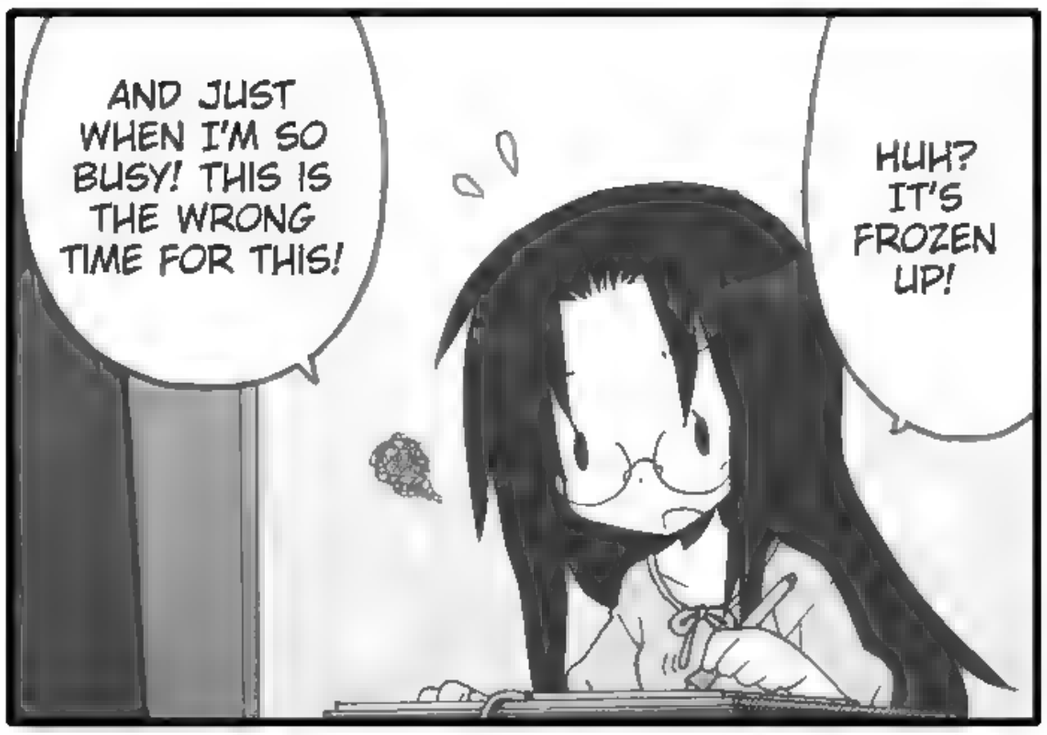


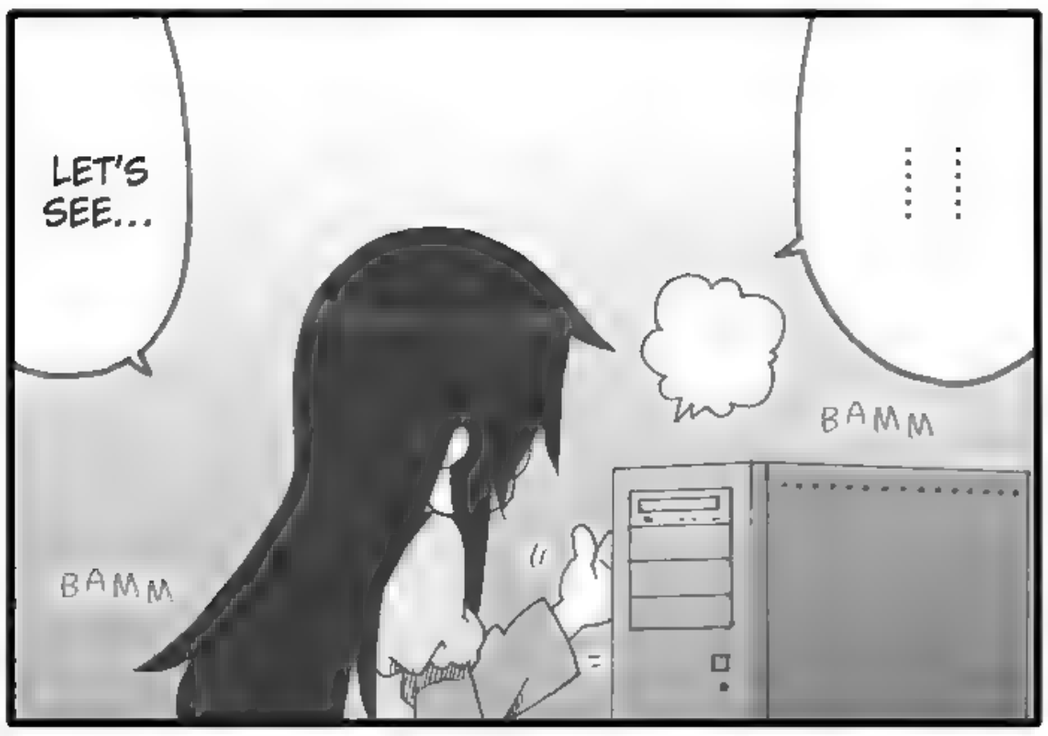
PEOPLE HAVE MUCH MORE IMPORTANT TRAITS THAN THAT! A BUST SIZE IS JUST A BONUS! JUST A BONUS!
I-I don't know...
IT ISN'T ALL THAT GREAT A THING TO BE BIG, YOU KNOW. I THINK A REASONABLE SIZE IS BEST.

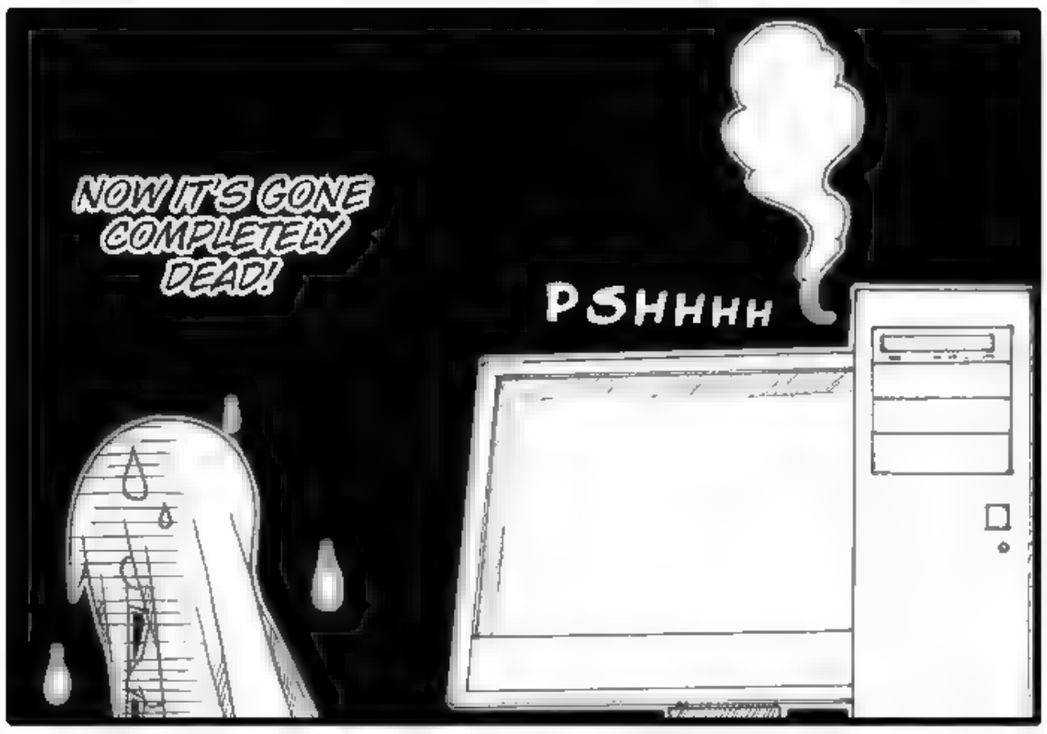
BUT IT'S JUST LIKE GUYS TO ONLY CONCENTRATE ON THE BONUS MATERIAL.
They only eat snacks with toy bonuses and stuff.
WELL... I CAN'T DISAGREE THAT A BUST SIZE IS A BONUS...

the result of seeing too much

WHEN YOU DO WHAT TAKARA-SEMPAI TELLS YOU, ANY PROBLEM CAN BE FIXED. IT'S AN UNUSUAL POWER.
But that really fixed it? Cool!
THAT WAS ONE AMAZ-ING THING TO HAPPEN, HUH?







natural

I'M SORRY. I'M NOT WELL ENOUGH INFORMED ON THE MAINTE-NANCE OF HOUSEHOLD ELECTRON-ICS.
I GUESS IT'S SO BAD EVEN MIYUKI-SAN CAN'T FIX IT.
AGAIN! THIS THING HAS BEEN FRITZING OUT FOR A WHILE NOW.

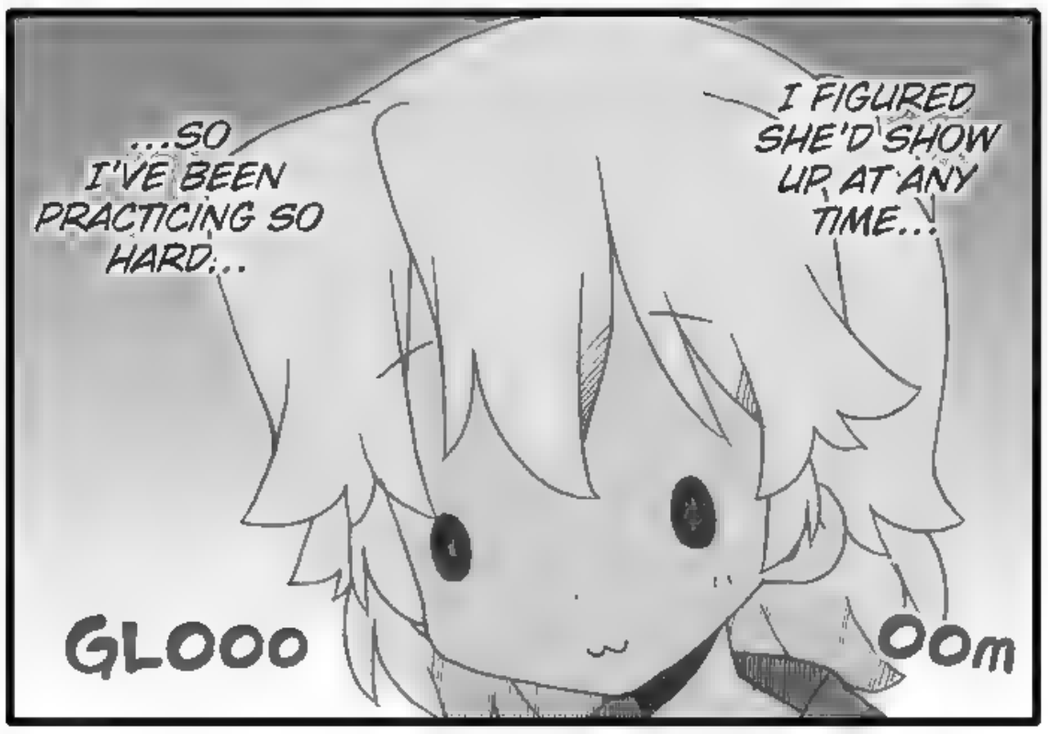
YUKI-CHAN, YOU'RE A DOCTOR TO EVERY-THING!
LET'S SEE... OH!! IT'S ACTUALLY FIXED!!
I'VE HEARD OF THEM TOO...
I'VE HEARD OF CASES WHERE BANGING ON THEM HELPED, BUT...
I think it would be better not to hit it too much.
BAMM
BAMM

difference

....WEARS ME OUT.
HAVING THE SAME NAME AS SOMEBODY REALLY CUTE...
My name already gives me a com-plex.
Yeah, okay!
Nee-chan! Where's dinner?!

the aftermath

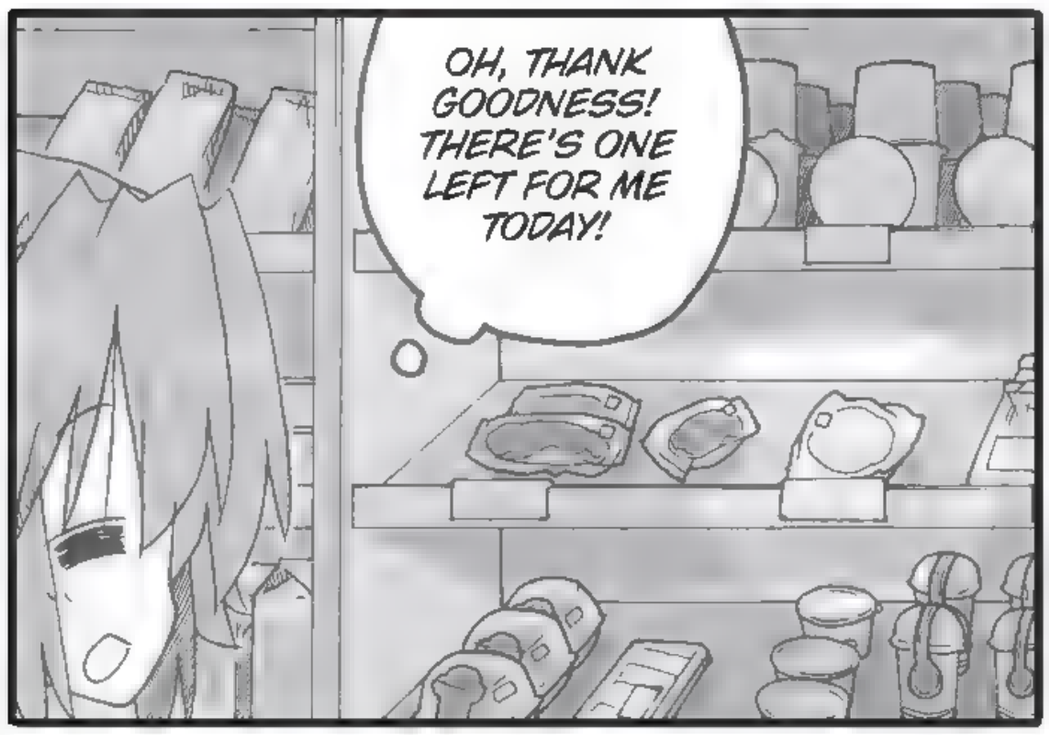
I'VE BEEN GOING TO THE ONE NEAR SCHOOL WITH MY FRIENDS. WHY?
HM? NOT THE ONE NEAR MY HOUSE, ANYWAY.
YOU HAVEN'T BEEN TO THE GAME CENTER RECENTLY, HAVE YOU, SEMPAI?
OH, I JUST REMEM-BERED!
?



Patricia Martin

episode 229
nothing goes right

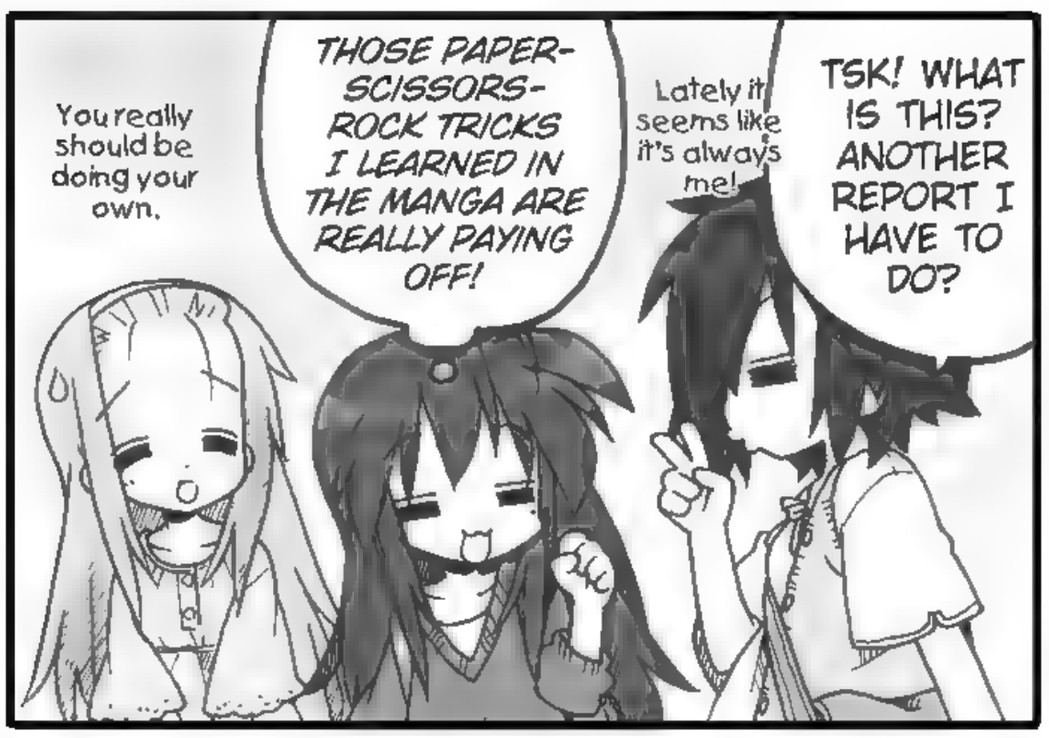
the fair effect



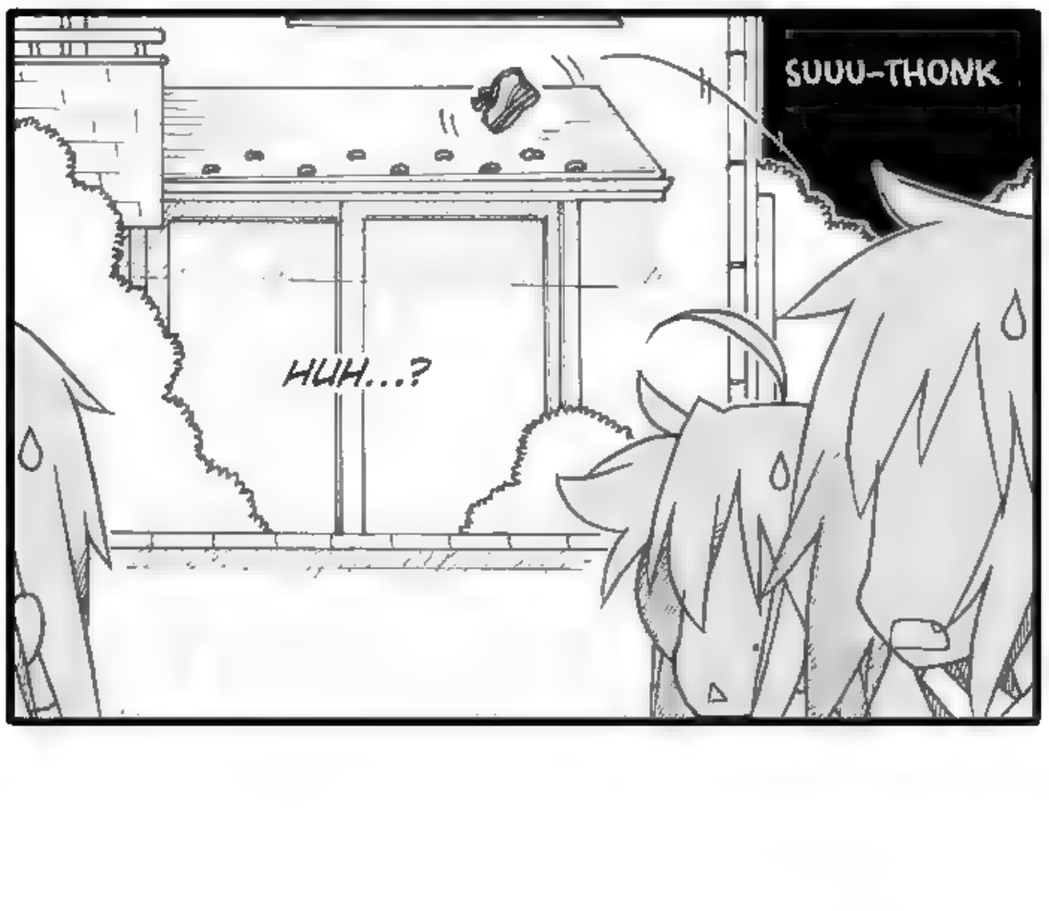
BUT WITH THE POINT STICKER, IT'S LIKE I'M WASTING IT.
If only the cream puff was 200 yen, you know?
URRN... TOO BAD! IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE CAMPAIGN, I'D HAVE BOUGHT IT!
Gm
Gm
Gm
Gm
Gm

- Comptiq, June 2010 issue

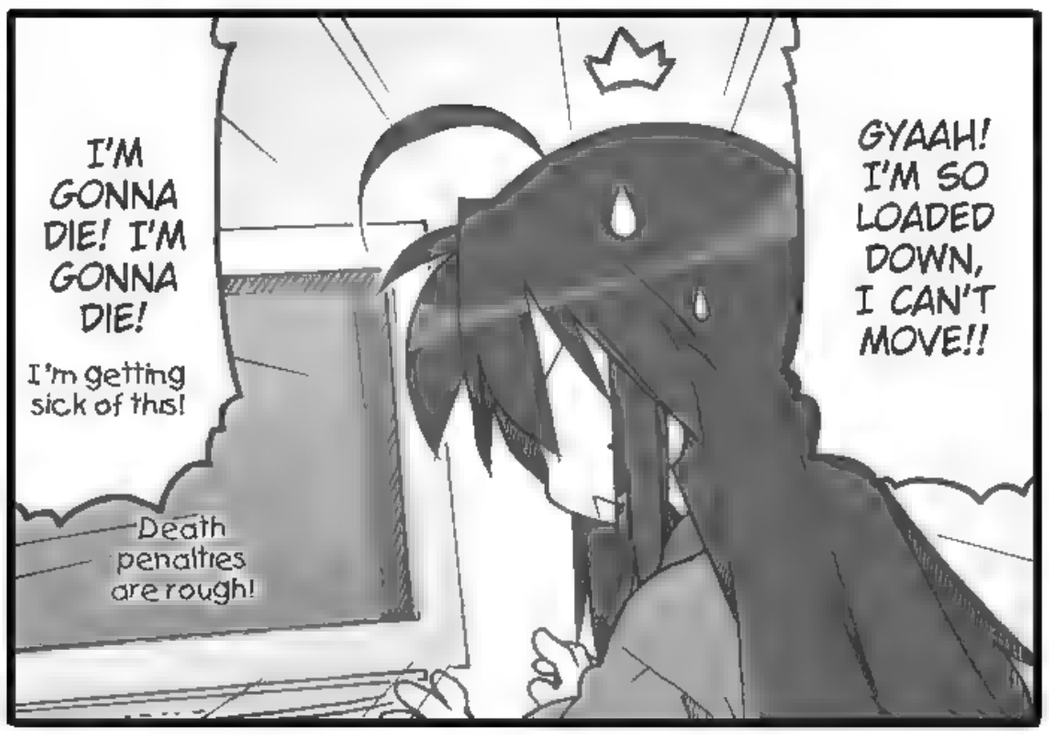
the way the game goes


You really should be doing your own.
THOSE PAPER-SCISSORS-ROCK TRICKS I LEARNED IN THE MANGA ARE REALLY PAYING OFF!
Lately it seems like it's always me!
TSK! WHAT IS THIS? ANOTHER REPORT I HAVE TO DO?

OKAY, SURE. BUT IT'S REALLY CHILD-ISH, YOU KNOW.
LIKE DOING A SHOE-KICK OR SOMETHING!
If it lands upside down, I do it. Right side up and you do it.
HM? LIKE HOW?
HOW ABOUT WE CHANGE UP THE WAY WE DECIDE NOW AND THEN?

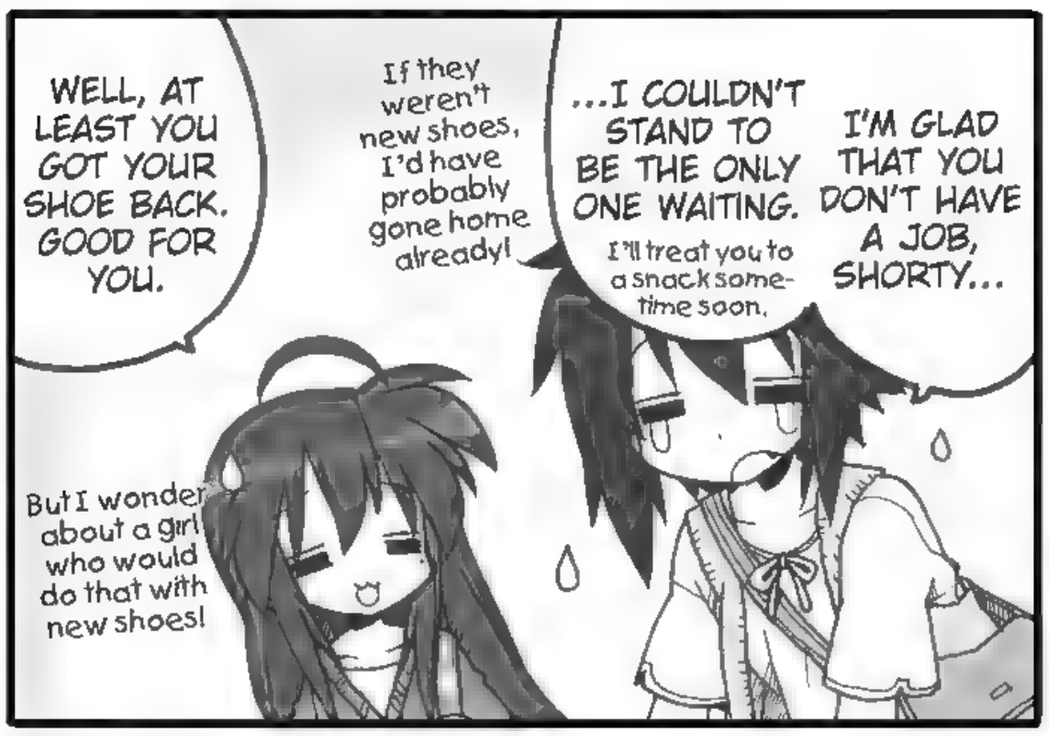


past-time



I think I know how you feel.
You get into them too much.
...THAT I'M PAYING MONEY TO BUY EXTRA STRESS.
YOU KNOW, I BUY GAMES FOR FUN, BUT SOMETIMES I GET THE FEELING...

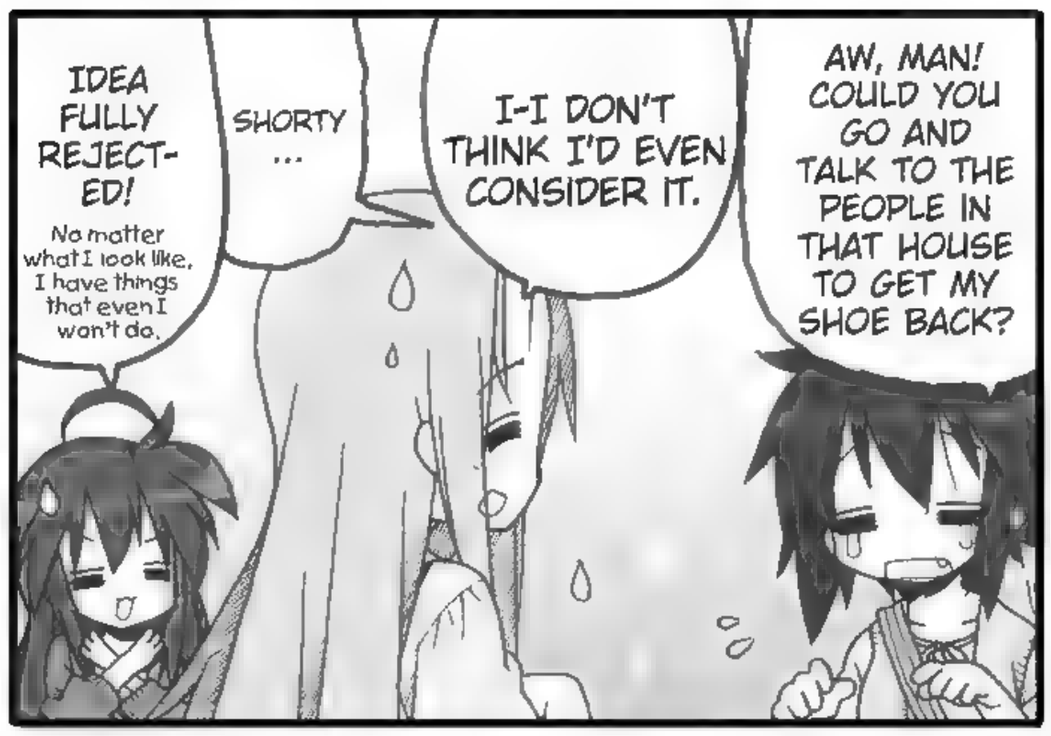
attack on a fleeing enemy

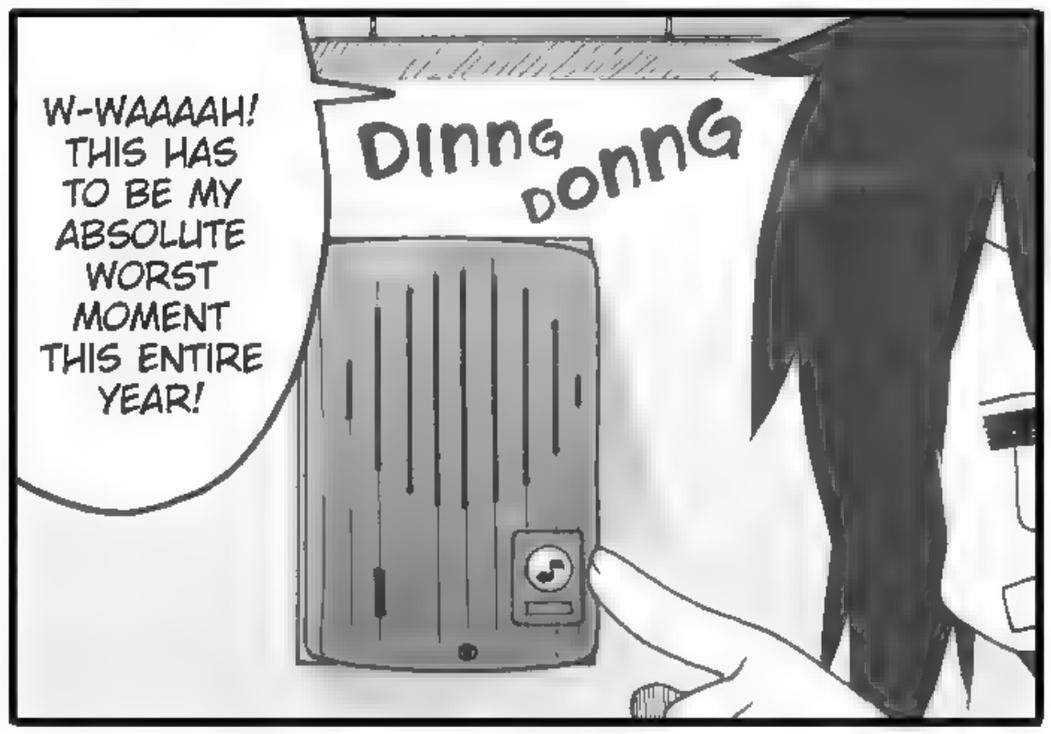

WELL, AT LEAST YOU GOT YOUR SHOE BACK. GOOD FOR YOU.
If they weren't new shoes, I'd have probably gone home already!
...I COULDN'T STAND TO BE THE ONLY ONE WAITING.
I'll treat you to a snack sometime soon.
I'M GLAD THAT YOU DON'T HAVE A JOB, SHORTY...
But I wonder about a girl who would do that with new shoes!

*THEY WOUND UP WAITING UNTIL THE PEOPLE LIVING THERE FINALLY CAME HOME.

COME TO THINK OF IT, I WAS WONDERING WHO FINALLY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE NEXT REPORT?
You've already decided there will be a next time?
Next time will be a breeze!
I GET THE FEELING THAT I'VE BEEN KICKED AROUND TODAY AS MUCH AS I WILL EVER BE.
SLUNK
SLUNK

overwriting

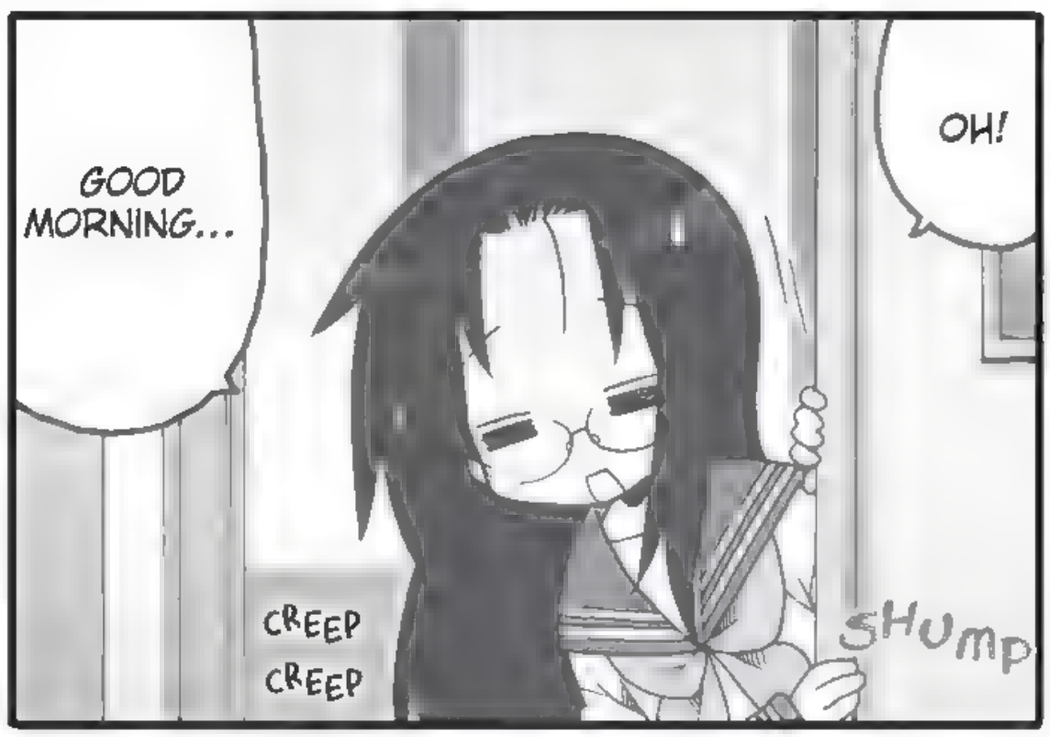

IDEA FULLY REJECTED!
No matter what I look like, I have things that even I won't do.
SHORTY ...
I-I DON'T THINK I'D EVEN CONSIDER IT.
AW, MAN! COULD YOU GO AND TALK TO THE PEOPLE IN THAT HOUSE TO GET MY SHOE BACK?

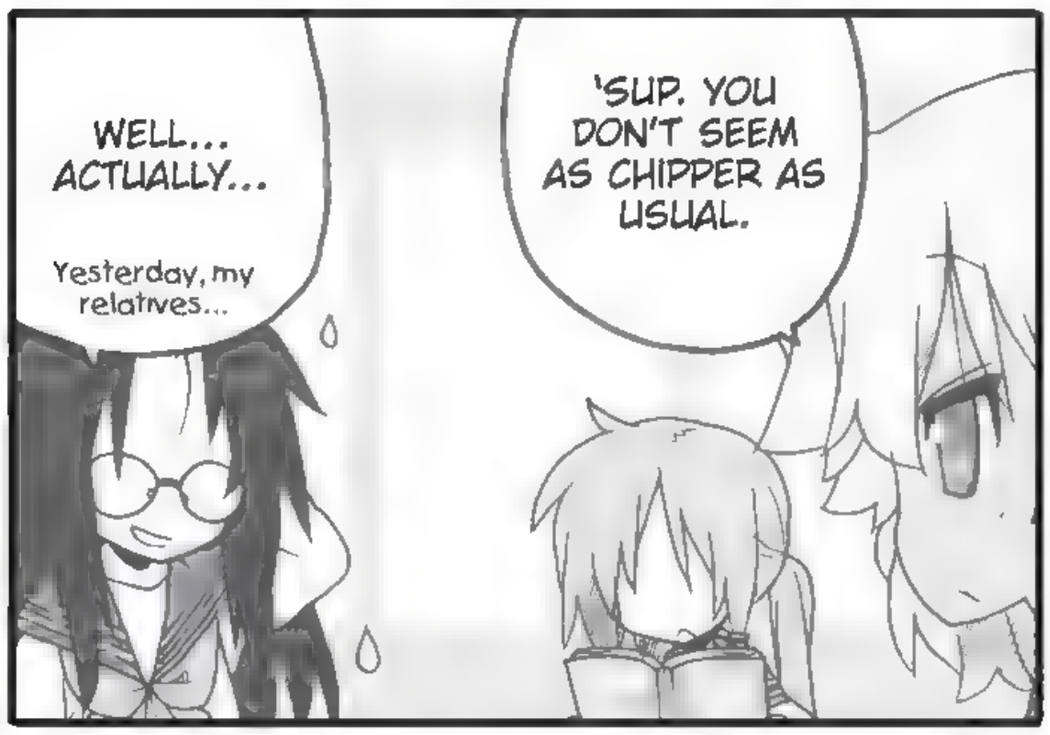


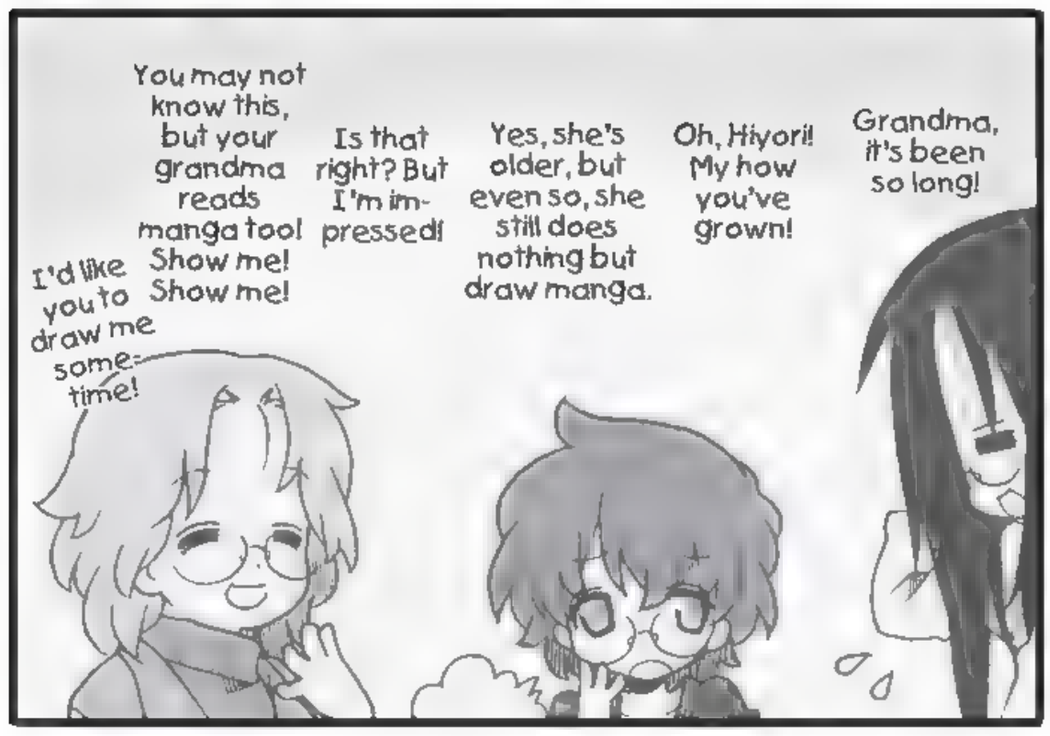
Izumi Wakase

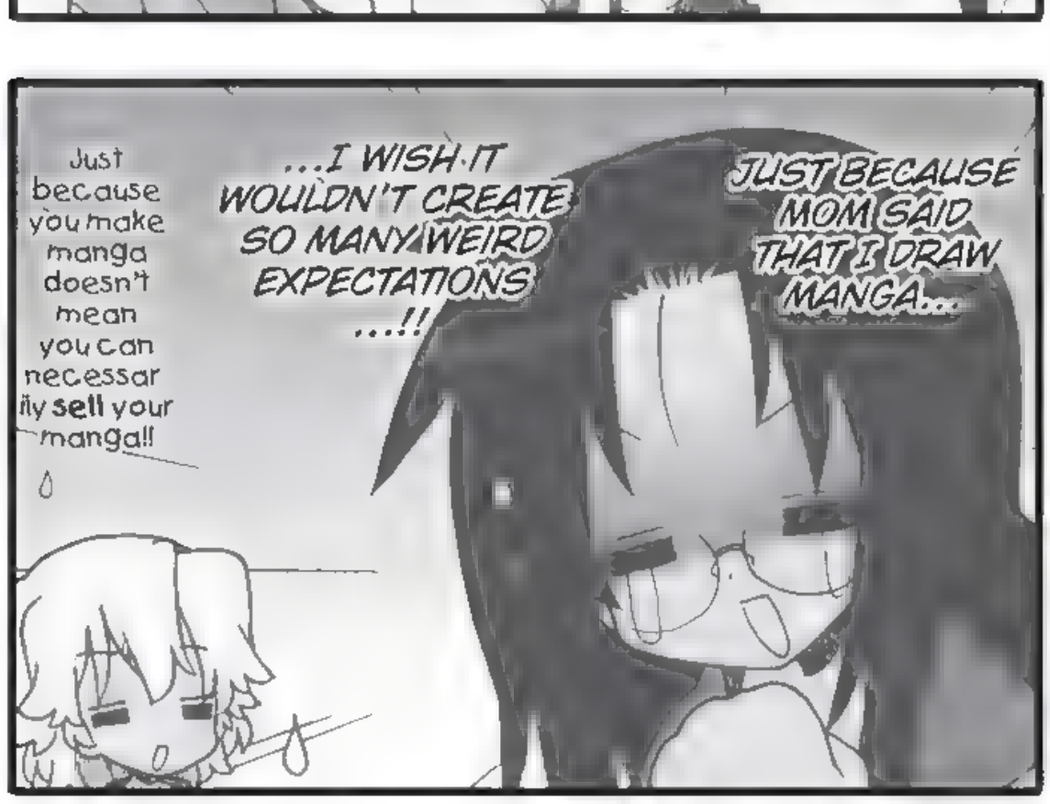
episode 230 straight-forward heart

the specialist





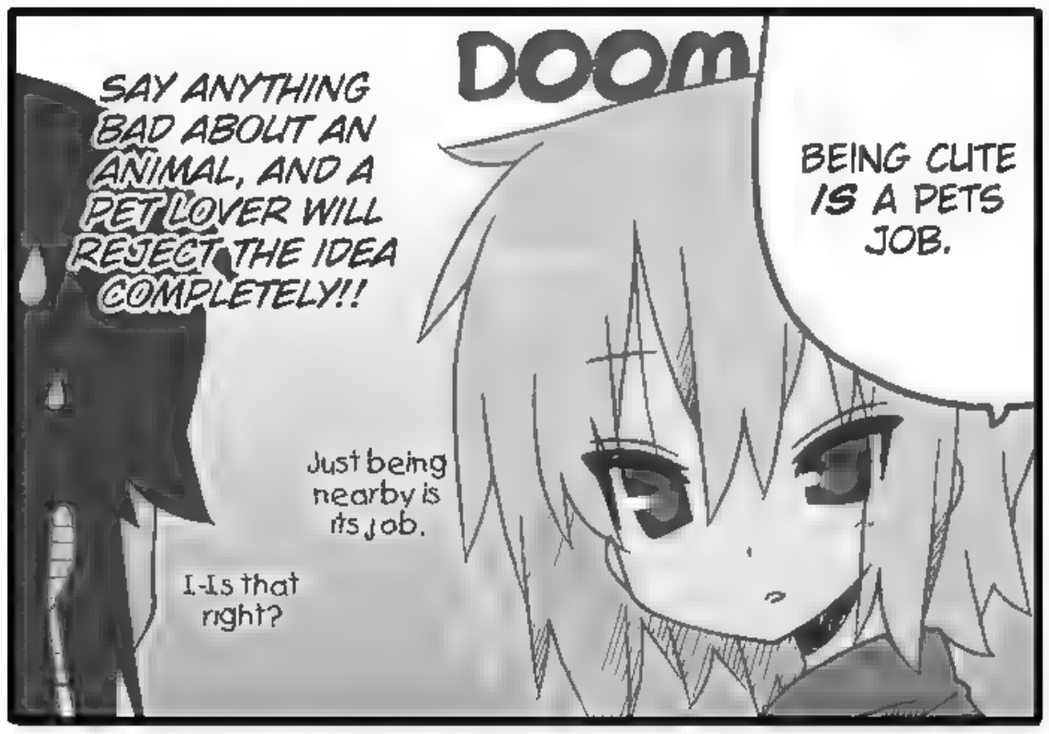

I'd like you to draw me some-time!
You may not know this, but your grandma reads manga too! Show me! Show me!
Is that right? But I'm im-pressed!
Yes, she's older, but even so, she still does nothing but draw manga.
Oh, Hiyori! My how you've grown!
Grandma, it's been so long!


Just because you make manga doesn't mean you can necessar ily sell your manga!!
...I WISH IT WOULDN'T CREATE SO MANY WEIRD EXPECTATIONS ...!!
JUST BECAUSE MOM SAID THAT I DRAW MANGA...

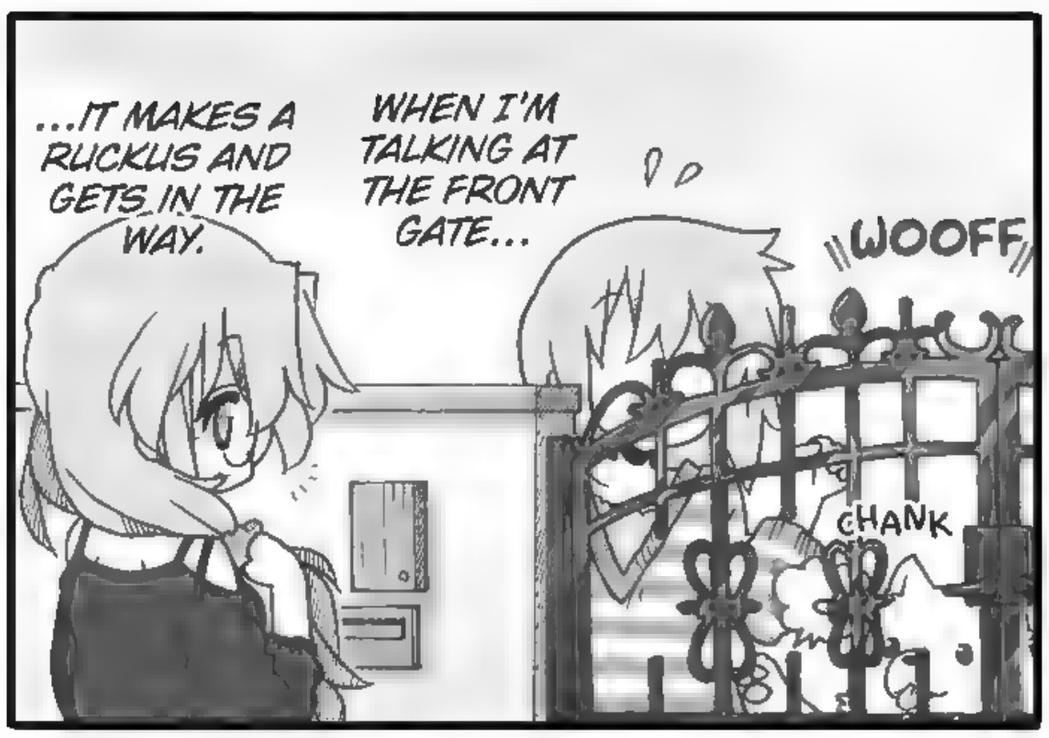
Comptiq, July 2010 issue

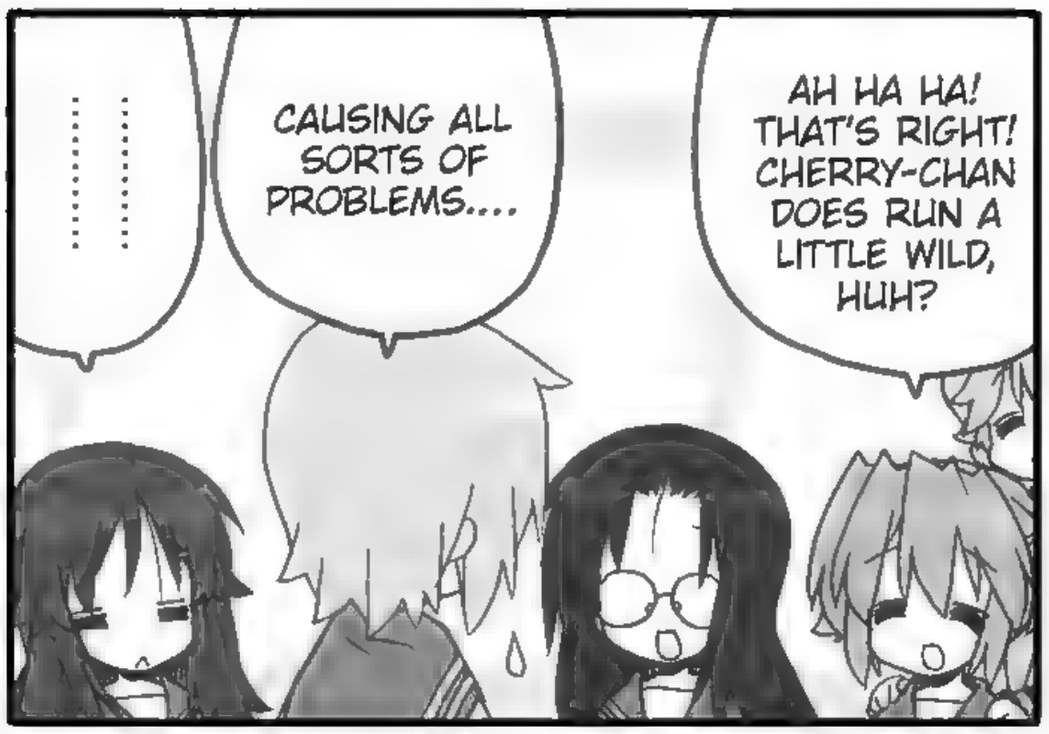
the one absolute truth

THAT ISN'T... TRUE...
And they get it even when they do bad things.
BUT PETS HAVE IT EASY, DON'T THEY? THEY DON'T HAVE TO WORK FOR THEIR FOOD.
Cherry-chan can't do any tricks either, huh?


SAY ANYTHING BAD ABOUT AN ANIMAL, AND A PET LOVER WILL REJECT THE IDEA COMPLETELY!!
DOOM
BEING CUTE IS A PETS JOB.
Just being nearby is its job.
I-Is that right?

your reward





...SHE ACTUALLY SEEMS VERY HAPPY ABOUT IT ALL.
DESPITE THE COMPLAINTS COMING OUT OF HER MOUTH!..
And it runs roughshod doing this and that...
You do think of them as problems, don't you?

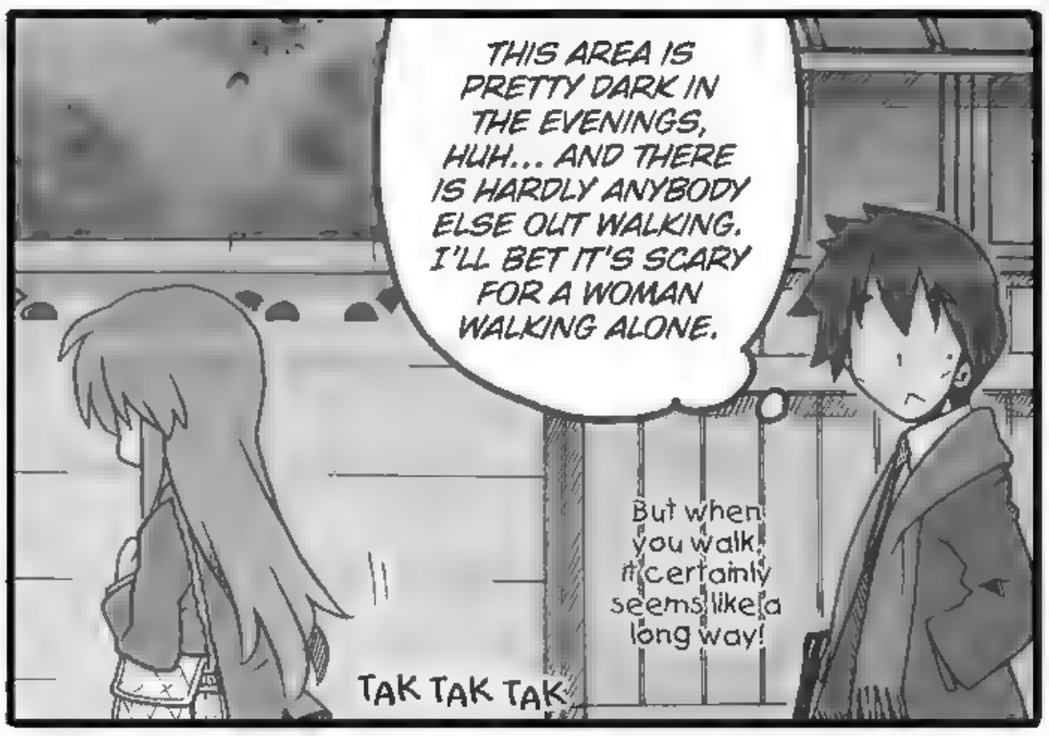
forgotten item

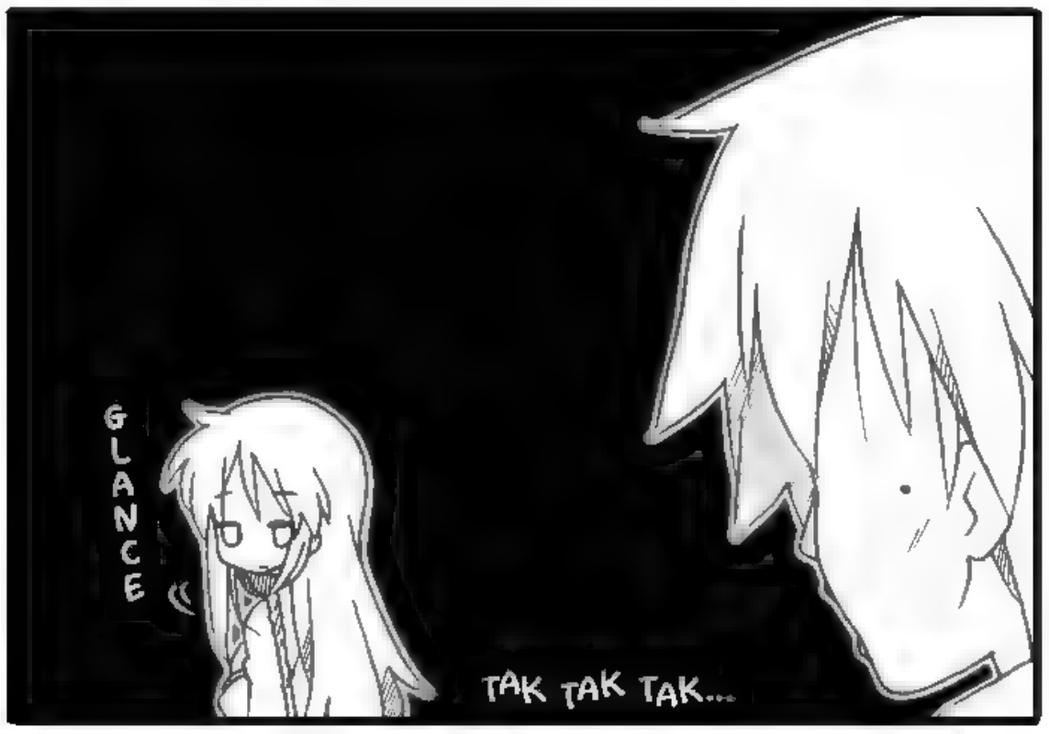
IF THE WORLD SAW US THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING, TWO ADULTS GETTING SUCH A KICK OUT OF ANIME DIRECTED AT LITTLE GIRLS, I DON'T WANT TO KNOW WHAT THEY'D THINK.
THAT GIVES ME ENERGY IN THE MORNING!
. it's a healthy attitude.
Even though..

SOMEWHERE ALONG THE LINE, I LOST ALL SHAME!!
When did that happen...?
Next is an action show between anime shows to refresh us!
THAT'S RIGHT. I WAS LIKE THAT A LONG TIME AGO.
Yeah! Yeah!

destination

MAYBE I'LL JUST WALK HOME, SINCE I NORMALLY DON'T GET ENOUGH EXERCISE.
IT'S GOTTEN LATE. SO LATE, I'D FEEL GUILTY IF I MADE ANY-BODY COME TO MEET ME AT THE STATION.


THIS AREA IS PRETTY DARK IN THE EVENINGS, HUH... AND THERE IS HARDLY ANYBODY ELSE OUT WALKING. I'LL BET IT'S SCARY FOR A WOMAN WALKING ALONE.
But when you walk, it certainly seems like a long way!
TAK TAK TAK



WELL YOU'RE CONSCIOUS OF HOW CREEPY YOU CAN BE, SO I'LL BET YOUR IMAGINATION WAS WORKING OVERTIME.
But what could I do? There's only one way home!
...I WAS SCARED TOO! THINKING THAT SHE MAY HAVE GOTTEN ME WRONG AND CALLED THE POLICE...
YES, I'M SURE SHE WAS VERY FRIGHTENED, BUT...
SNIFF
SNIFF

Nanako Kuroi

episode 231
struck to the heart

image

- Comptiq, July 2009 issue

consciousness

SHE EVEN PAYS ATTENTION TO MAKE SURE THAT THE MEAL HAS NICE COLORS. I'M AMAZED!
I MEAN LOOK AT THIS! EVERYDAY, WELL-BALANCED MEALS!

WAIT A MINUTE! THE COLORS ARE SO DULL! AT LEAST LET ME PUT SOME TOMATOES OR CORN IN THERE TO BRIGHTEN IT UP!
EH? OH, STOP THAT! WHAT ARE YOU TAKING A PICTURE FOR?
PEE PEE PEE PEE...

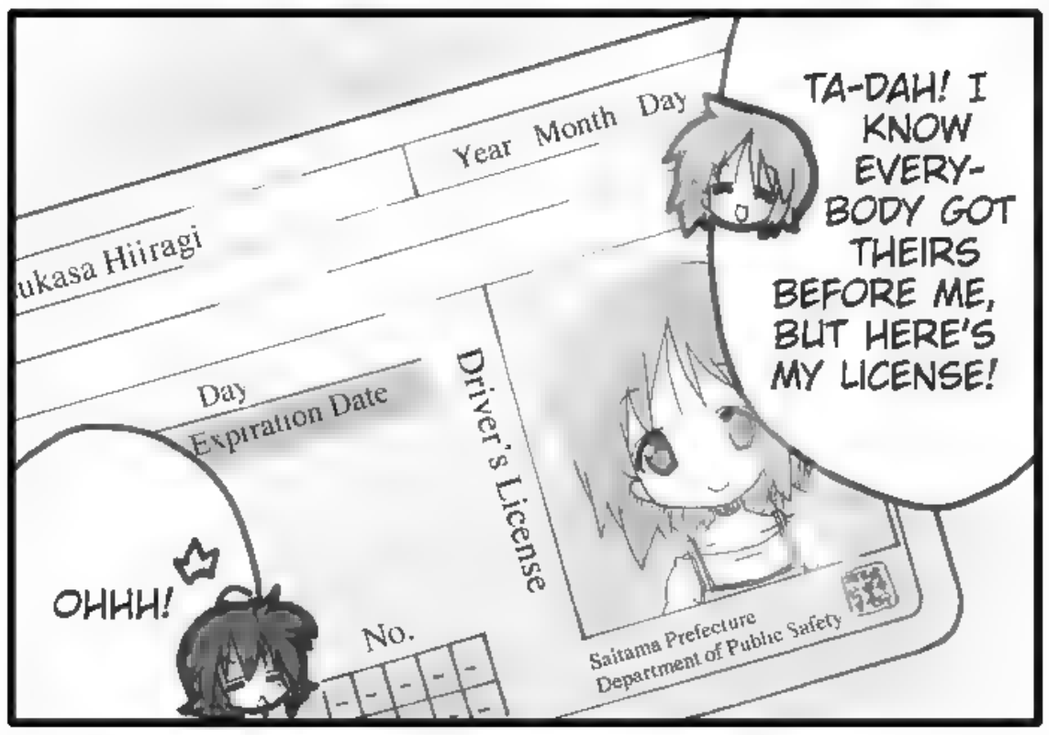
AHH. NOW I GET IT.
It's so embarrassing! (I'm imitating Yuki-chan!)
IT'S JUST BECAUSE IT'S BE RECORDED SOMEWHERE.
It isn't like I was going to show anybody, but she went to all that fuss...

limits of vision

AND BECAUSE OF IT, I'M MORE AWARE OF BALANCED NUTRITION AND CALORIES. I THINK IT MAY HELP WITH WEIGHT LOSS.
IF IT'S SOMETHING I CAN SEE, IT'S SOMETHING I'LL BE CONSCIOUS OF.
REAAALY? YOU'RE RECORDING EVERY DETAIL?
Even your meals at home?

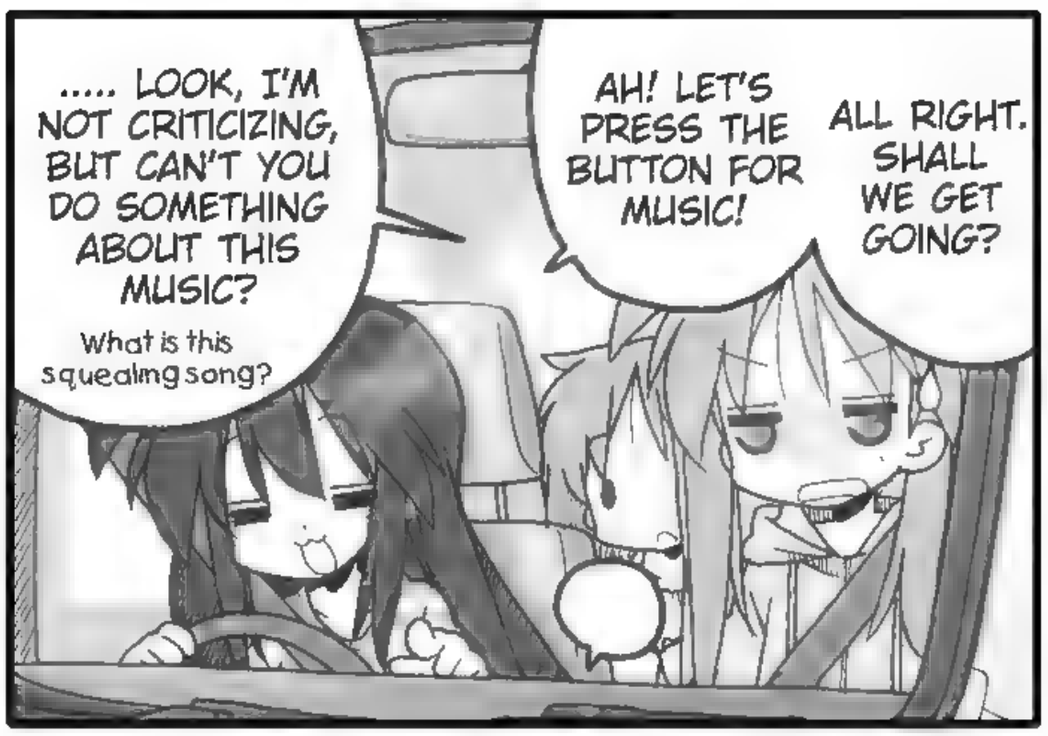
OH, DEAR! WHATEVER CAN YOU MEAN, KONATA-SAN?
GAK GAK
You ordered a parfait, but I don't see any ice cream or sweets pictured here.
BUT THERE'S QUITE A BIT OF WEIGHT THAT ISN'T RECORDED FOR YOU TO SEE, HUH?

times aren't a changing



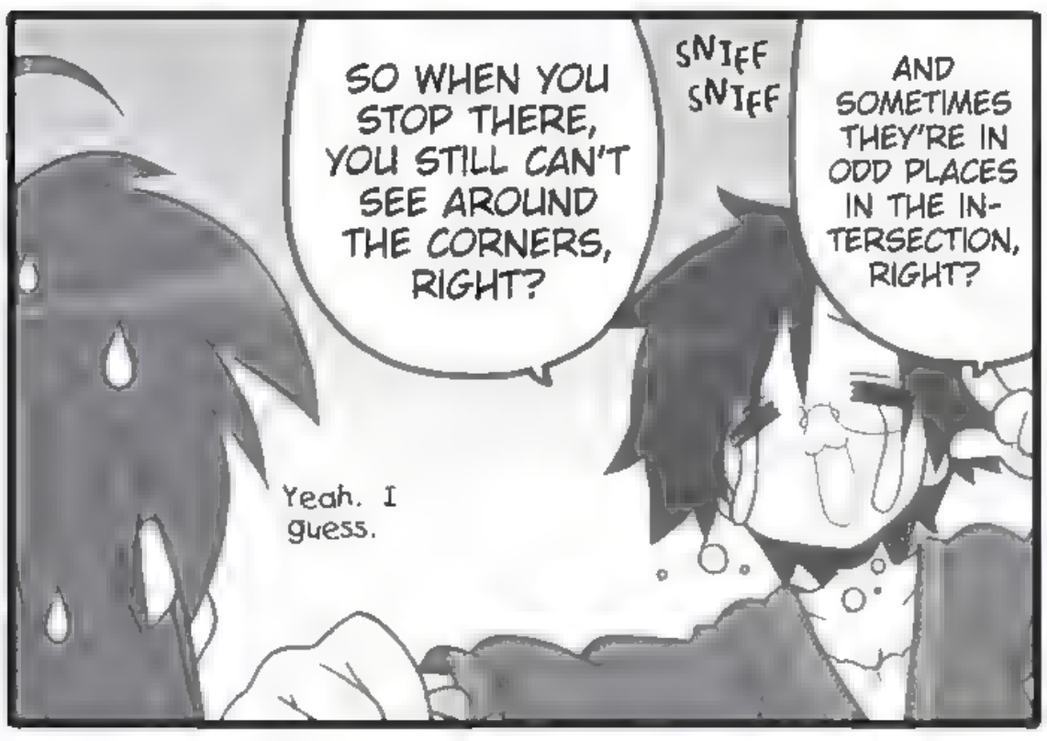
I THINK DAD IS THINK-ING THE VERY SAME THING.
I don't quite trust your driving
BUT TOO BAD FOR YOU. I REALLY DOUBT THAT YOU'LL HAVE ANY CHANCE TO USE IT.
REALLY! CONGRATU-LATIONS!
WELL, THIS SHOULD MAKE THINGS THAT MUCH EASIER FOR YOUR DAD AND ALL THE OLDER PEOPLE IN YOUR FAMILY

the abandonment game


..... LOOK, I'M NOT CRITICIZING, BUT CAN'T YOU DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS MUSIC?
What is this squealing song?
AH! LET'S PRESS THE BUTTON FOR MUSIC!
ALL RIGHT. SHALL WE GET GOING?

Fuyuki Amahara Hikaru Sakuraba

episode 232
waiting for spring


SO WHEN YOU STOP THERE, YOU STILL CAN'T SEE AROUND THE CORNERS, RIGHT?
SNIFF SNIFF
AND SOMETIMES THEY'RE IN ODD PLACES IN THE IN-TERSECTION, RIGHT?
Yeah. I guess.

HOLD ON! YOU MAY WANT TO CALM DOWN AND DO A THOROUGH SELF-EXAMINATION, MS. TRAFFIC COP!
You were caught by the police?
They have a quota to fill so they wait in ambush!
...SUDDENLY THE COPS COME OUT AND GRAB ME! AREN'T THOSE GUYS JUST TERRIBLE?!
SO WHEN I WENT JUST A LITTLE FARTHER INTO THE INTER-SECTION BEYOND THE STOP LINE...
SNIFF

- Comp Ace, September 2010 issue

magical country

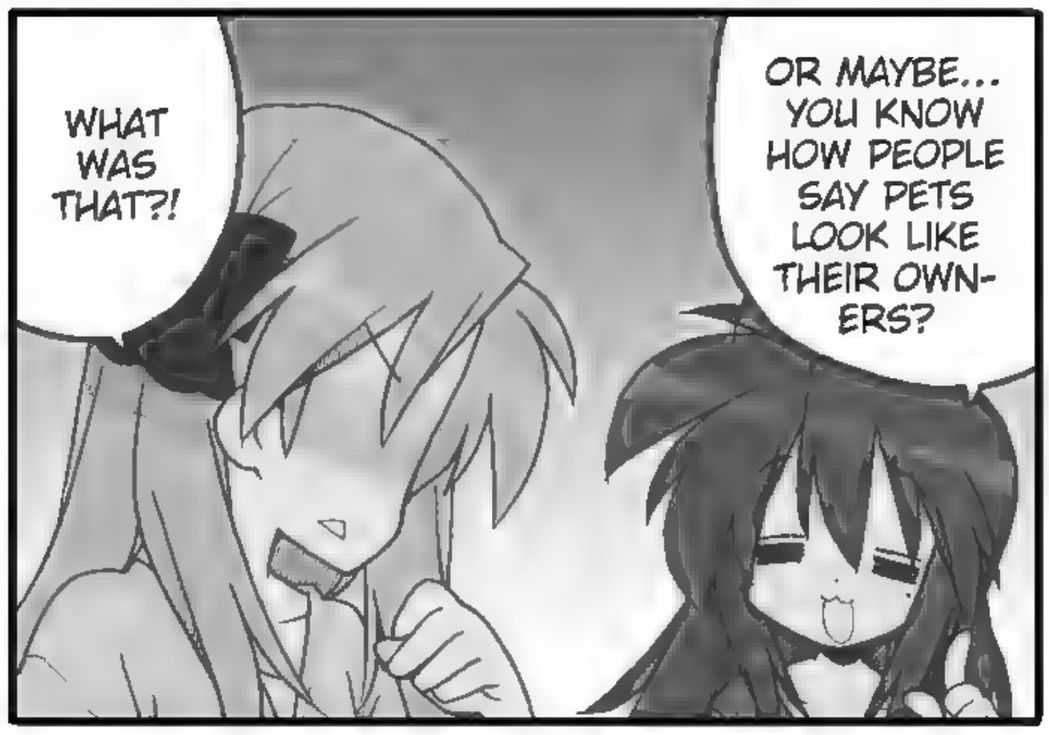
THAT'S TRUE! AH! COME TO THINK OF IT, A LITTLE WHILE BACK, I WENT TO A MIDDLE-SCHOOL CLASS REUNION.
YOU KNOW, I'M ALREADY NOSTALGIC FOR HIGH SCHOOL.

BUT MY FRIEND WHO WANTED TO BECOME A WITCH WHEN SHE GREW UP DIDN'T BE-COME ONE THOUGH.
EVERY-BODY CHANGED MORE THAN I EXPECTED.
REALLY? HOW'D IT GO?
Did you see those much-rumored fellow otaku?

WHAT IS SHE TALKING ABOUT ...?!
IT LOOKS LIKE THERE ARE QUITE A FEW WITCHES IN TRAINING!
Give her ten years, and I think she'll be a real sage!
Hmm...

reason

I KNEW I HAD TO PUT THEM ON DIETS, BUT...
THEY WERE DO-ING GREAT, THEN, LIKE ALWAYS, THEY JUST CONKED OUT.
Before I knew it, I had fed them too much.
They say goldfish are pretty long-lived.
THERE WERE A LOT OF GOLD FISH STILL ALIVE BACK THEN. WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT?



our moe world

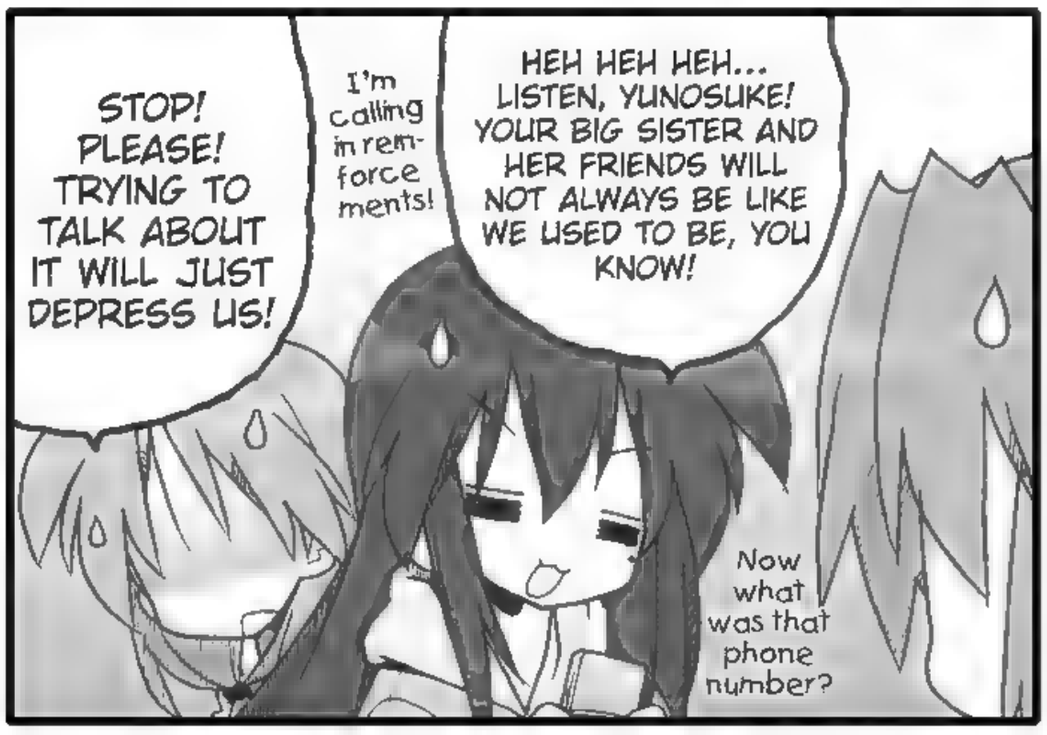
WE WENT WITH MIYUKI AND MINEGISHI, AND EVERY-BODY, EVEN PATRICIA-SAN, CAME ALONG.
WHEN ALL TEN OF US GIRLS WENT TO THE BEACH, NOTHING HAPPENED!!
But you know the problem, right?

THEN IN A LOT OF WAYS, THAT WOULD HAVE SPELLED THE END OF OUR STORIES!
IF WE WERE IN A MANGA OR GAME WORLD, AND WE ALL HAD FOUND OUR-SELVES BOY-FRIENDS...
DOOO
OOM

AH, ANOTHER SHARP INSIGHT FROM YOU...
We're out of our high-school uniforms and on our way to being called old ladies!
YEAH, BUT WHEN YOU SAY THAT, NO MATTER WHICH WAY YOU LOOK AT IT, OUR SEASON IS ENDING ANYWAY, RIGHT?
These worlds you talk of all have very quick expiration dates.
SIGGGH
Of course! I'm a Lolita Old Lady.

graduation spring

Our school uniform is the right kind for it.
DID ANY OF YOU SEMPAI RECEIVE SOME GUY'S SECOND UNI-FORM BUTTON OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT?


STOP! PLEASE! TRYING TO TALK ABOUT IT WILL JUST DEPRESS US!
I'm calling in rein-forcements!
HEH HEH HEH... LISTEN, YUNOSUKE! YOUR BIG SISTER AND HER FRIENDS WILL NOT ALWAYS BE LIKE WE USED TO BE, YOU KNOW!
Now what was that phone number?

Yui Narumi

popular word

RIGHT NOW, I'M LIVING WITH MY FATHER, A LITTLE SISTER AND A FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT...
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
OH, AND ALSO THE EXCHANGE STUDENT IS IN THE SAME CLASS AS MY COUSIN.
WELL, I CALL HER MY LITTLE SISTER, BUT SHE'S ACTUALLY MY COUSIN.
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
YES, WE'RE COUSINS, BUT FROM WHEN WE WERE REALLY LITTLE, WE PLAYED A LOT TOGETHER. SO SHE FEELS LIKE A LITTLE SISTER TO ME.
TAAAP
I GUESS I'M USING THE KIND OF WORDS THEY REALLY EAT UP, HUH?
I MEAN, EVERYBODY... REALLY!
WOW, THE CHATROOM HAS GOTTEN ITSELF REALLY WORKED UP.
And with the online games we're in, I'll bet there are a lot of people who think I'm a guy...
SIIII
GH

episode 233 the dreaming adults

• Comptiq, September 2010 issue

critical

I know you're my sister and all, but you can sure be stupid sometimes.
I'M HAPPY THAT YOU LIKE SOMETHING I RECOMMENDED BUT...
Flicker!!
VSH
VSH

target

YOU'RE A LOT EASIER TO INFLU-ENCE THAN I THOUGHT.
IT MADE ME WANT TO GO OUT AND WORK UP A SWEAT!!
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK OF BOXING MANGA, BUT IT WAS REALLY GOOD!
SHUM SHUM
PEEK A BOO

...AND GIVE HIM MY UN-BEATABLE RIGHT JAB!!
That's your left
VSSH
...AND WITH A STEP FORWARD, I TWIST AT THE WAIST AND SHOUL-DER...
BRINGING MY ARMS CLOSE TO MY CHEST...

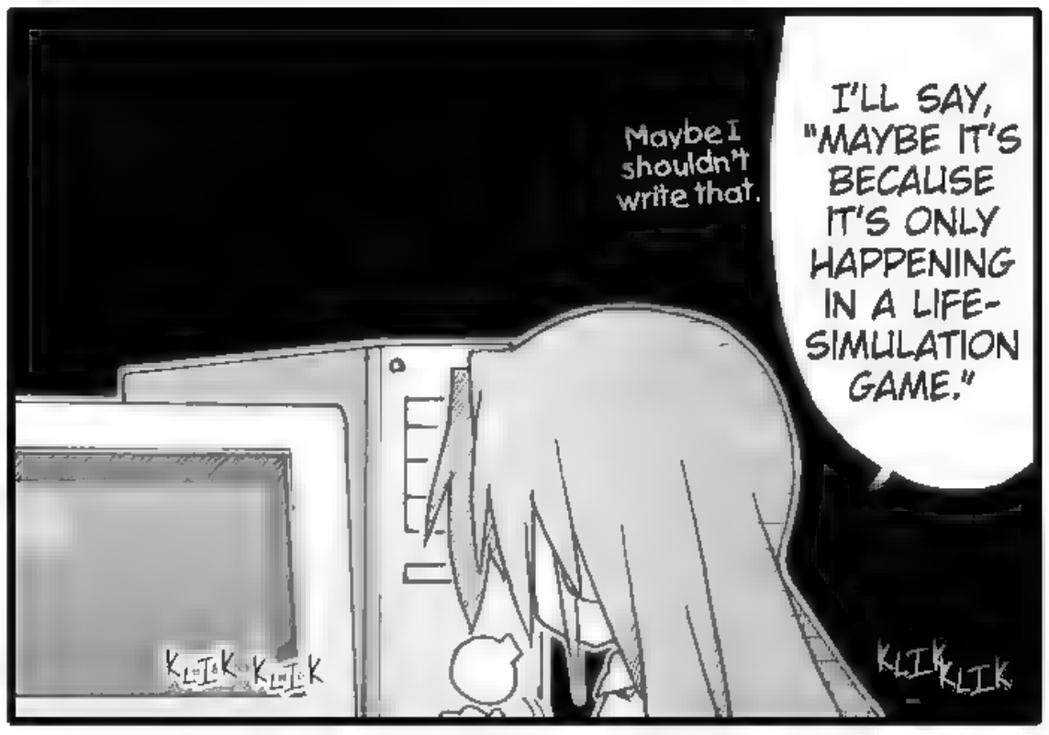
playing telephone

EH? I-IS THAT RIGHT? I'LL TELL HER.
AH! YUU-CHAN, CAN YOU PASS ON A MESSAGE TO SENSEI FOR ME? TELL HER, CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR MARRIAGE, AND I'M SORRY THAT I'M NOT ABLE TO MAKE IT TO THE CEREMONY.
WHOA! LOOK AT THE TIME! WE HAVE TO HURRY!
Oh, Onee-chan, I'm heading out.

DOOO——OOOM
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO IN THIS ATMOSPHERE?!
WHAT'S THIS?
It's not like anybody's in the mood to hear that the mar-riage is in a game
Onee chan said she was sorry she can't make it to the wedding! But she wishes you happiness!

the true story

I don't know what the rush is myself...
EHH?! WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS CLOSE TO THE CER-EMONY?! IF YOU HAD TOLD ME A LITTLE BIT EARLIER...
Oh, but before I go on, congratula-tions!
...it looks like I'll be getting married soon...
!?



SoujirouIzumi

KanataIzumi

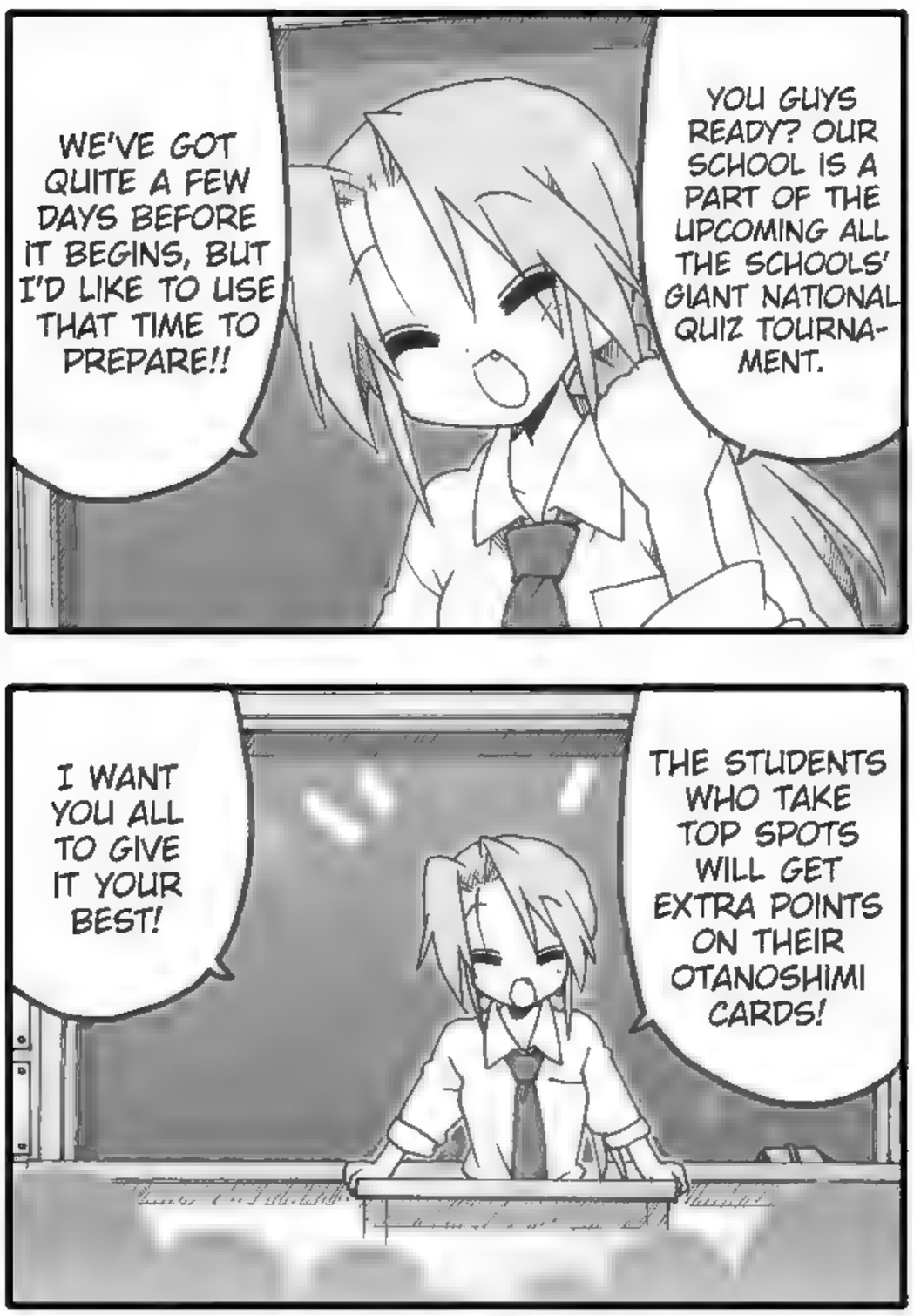
episode 234
the truth

discord

WHERE DID I USE ANYTHING SHE SUGGESTED IN MY PRESENT BOOK?!
EHHH?! WHICH ONE?! WHICH ONE WAS SHE TALKING ABOUT?!
No matter how much I search, I can't find anything that matches...
Tsukasa's Notes
BACK AT HOME...

- Comptiq, September 2010 issue

school function


WE'VE GOT QUITE A FEW DAYS BEFORE IT BEGINS, BUT I'D LIKE TO USE THAT TIME TO PREPARE!!
YOU GUYS READY? OUR SCHOOL IS A PART OF THE UPCOMING ALL THE SCHOOLS' GIANT NATIONAL QUIZ TOURNAMENT.
I WANT YOU ALL TO GIVE IT YOUR BEST!
THE STUDENTS WHO TAKE TOP SPOTS WILL GET EXTRA POINTS ON THEIR OTANOSHIMI CARDS!
BUT... UM... SENSE!...
HEY, WHAT'S WITH THE LOW ENERGY AROUND HERE?! COME ON, PEOPLE, LET'S TALK THIS UP!!
WHAT IS THIS? I WAS PRETTY SURE THAT YOU'D REALLY GET INTO THIS!
NO MATTER HOW YOU PHRASE IT, A NEW TEST WON'T GET PEOPLE EXCITED.
You guys all like the quiz shows on TV, right?

the answer

LOOK AT YOU SLACKERS! YOU'RE ALREADY PAST THE HALF-WAY POINT OF YOUR SECOND YEAR, SO AT LEAST DO YOUR HOMEWORK!
I FIGURED! JUST TELL THEM THE ANSWER TO THE FIRST QUESTION.
AH, YES...
OH, WAKASE! YOU BROUGHT YOURS RIGHT?
Show them what a real student is like!
...BUT I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND HOW TO SOLVE IT.
On that question.
I'M SORRY! I DID DO THE HOMEWORK...
What you have here doesn't qualify!
AWWW!
THIS IS HOMEWORK! WORK ON IT UNTIL YOU GET AN ANSWER!
THWACK

love changes a person

WELL, IT'S PRETTY AMAZ-ING, BUT I DON'T THINK I'LL BE AS ENTRANCED WITH IT AS THE MEN OF THE WORLD.
I am a woman, more or less.
You can choose your adventure, but I won't be playing the characters that everybody is talking about.
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU WON'T BE SHOWING YOUR FACE OUTSIDE YOUR DOOR FOR A WHILE AGAIN, HUH?
LOVE PLUS... IS THAT THE GAME THAT STARTED THE WEIRD-NESS IN SOCIETY?
IS THAT KONATA ON THE PHONE? IT'S STRANGELY EARLY TO BE GETTING A CALL FROM HER.
BRRRR
AH! KONA-CHAN! YEAH, WE'RE DOING FINE.
CHIK
ING
THE NEXT DAY...
I THOUGHT FOR YOU YOU'D BE SO ABSORBED IN THE GAME THAT YOU'D BE STAYING UP ALL NIGHT PLAYING.
So did you avoid get-ting caught up in it like you said you would?
OH, SORRY. WERE YOU ASLEEP ALREADY? I'M SURPRISED TO SEE YOU SO EARLY TO BED AND EARLY TO RISE.
Well... With a normal game, I do that a lot, but...
BRRING
KACHIK
SO THIS HAS THE INFLUENCE TO REFORM A USELESS HUMAN BEING? GAMES HAVE ENTERED A FRIGHTENING DOMAIN!!
But if I'm going to be the right boy-friend for Rinko, I figure I'm going to have to live my life right and start to find time for us to be together.
Rinko's so very cute, it makes life all that much tougher for me.

?! What's that mean ...?!

That includes you, right, Kagami?

What I know is that the people around you are too gentle with you!

A real girlfriend would probably forgive my late-night game sessions, but the game girlfriends are far more strict than that.

• **Comptiq, July 2010**

Tadao Hiiragi

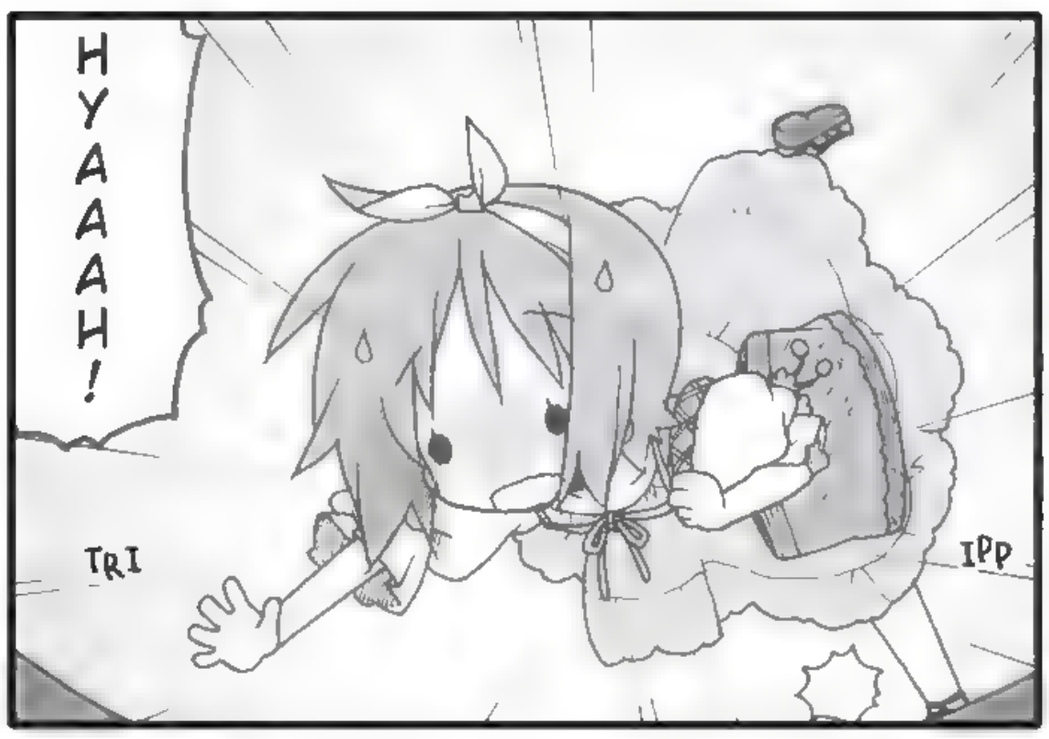
Inori Hiiragi

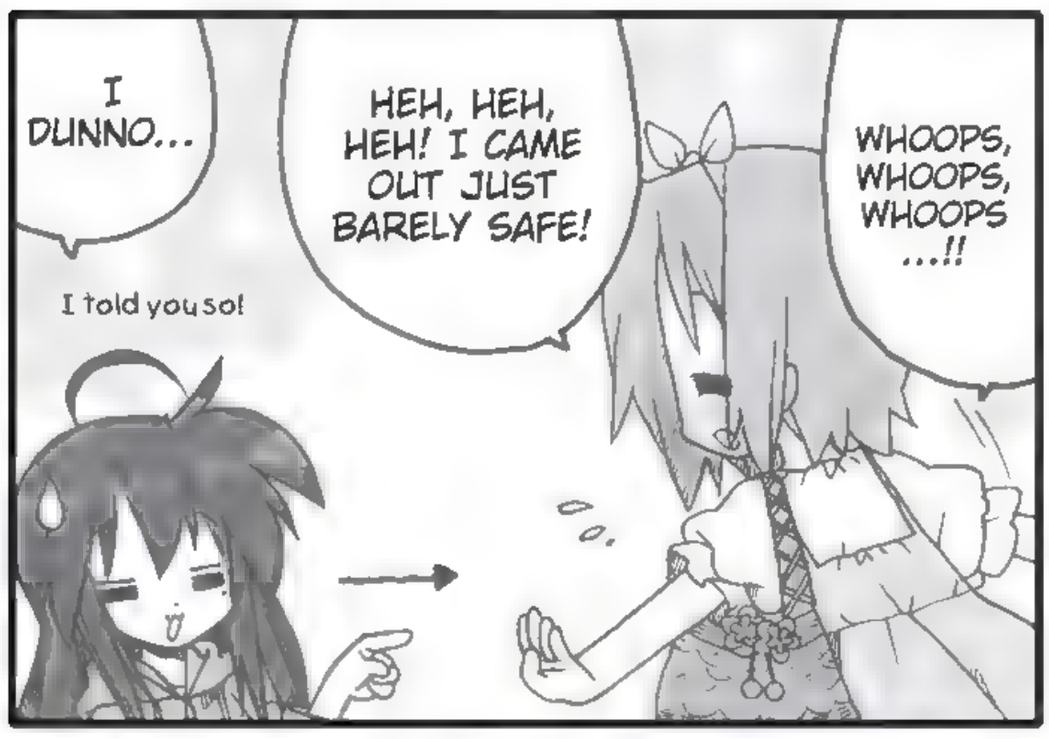
Matsuri Hiiragi

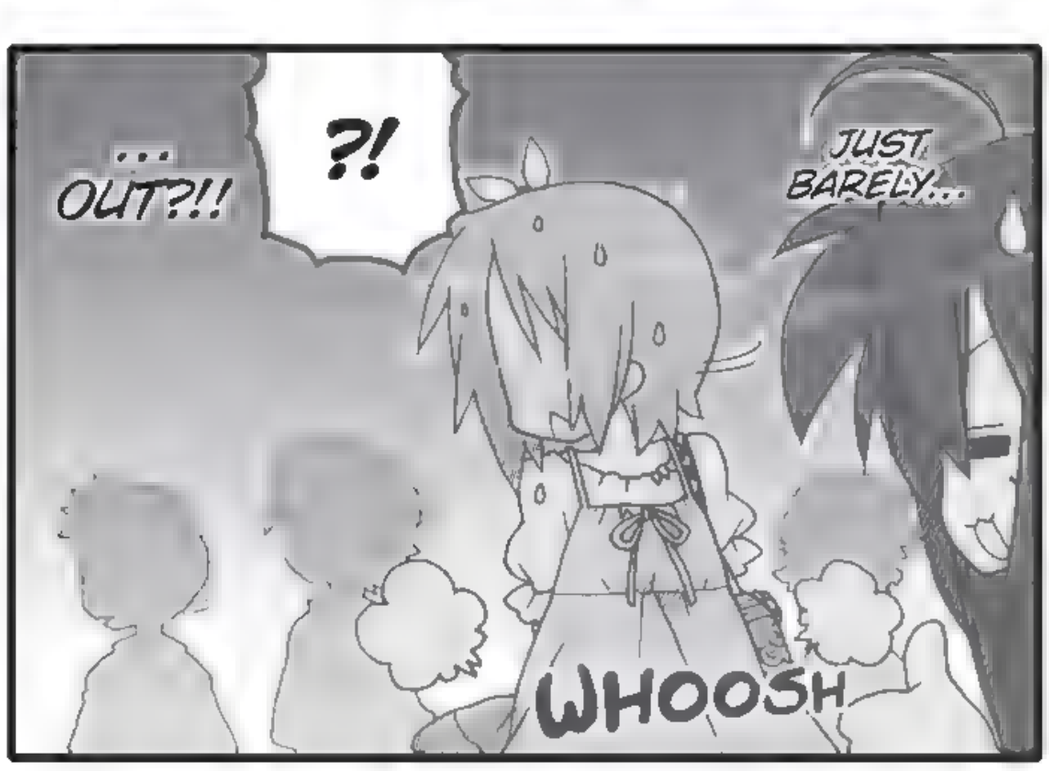
Miki Hiiragi

Lucky☆Star

episode 235 of a certain girl



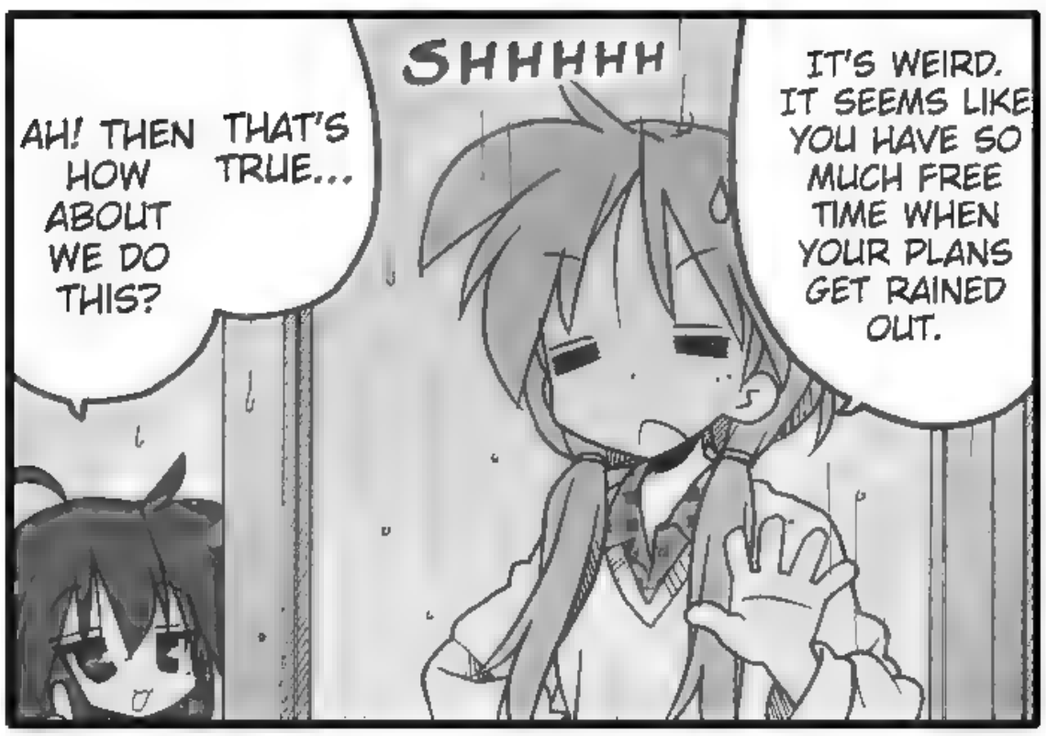




• Comptiq, October 2010 issue

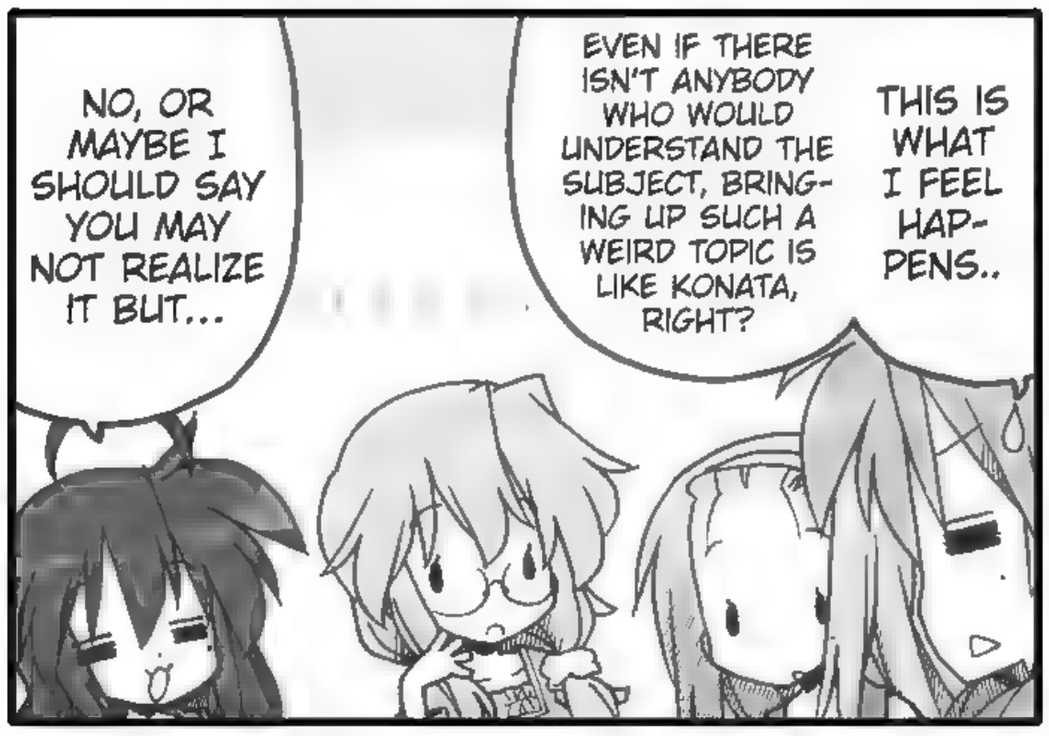
especially when combined, cont'd

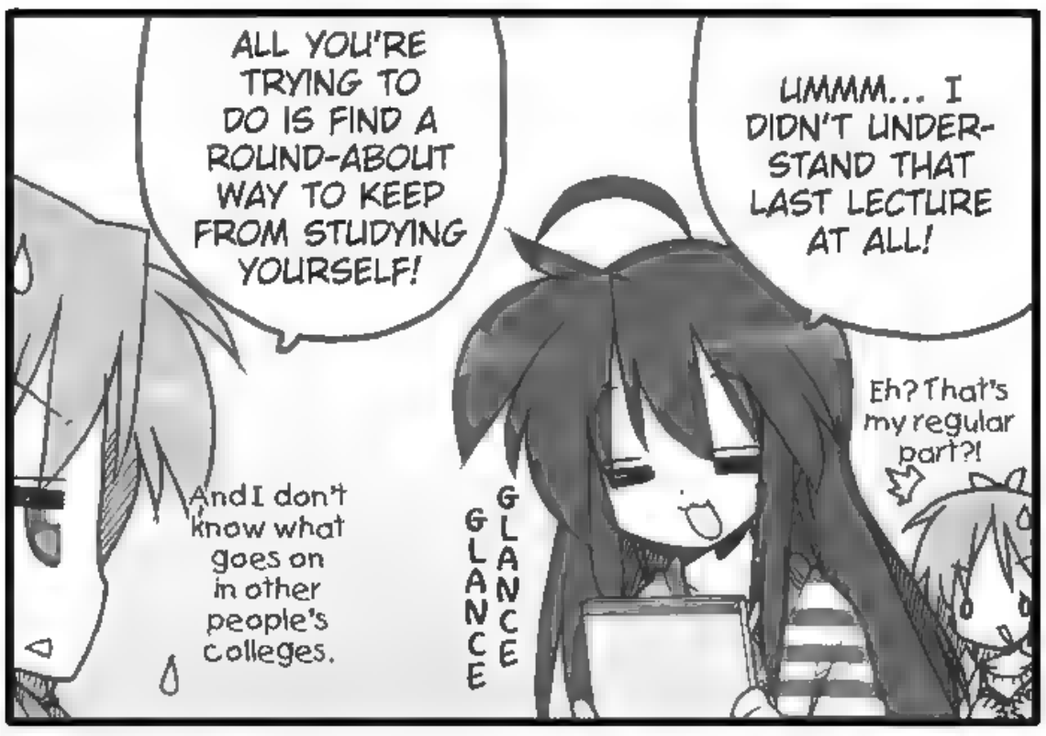
especially when combined


AH! THEN HOW ABOUT WE DO THIS?
THAT'S TRUE...
SHHHHH
IT'S WEIRD. IT SEEMS LIKE YOU HAVE SO MUCH FREE TIME WHEN YOUR PLANS GET RAINED OUT.

YES, BUT RYU COULD TAKE OUT KAZUYA IN ONE AT-TACK!
Aw, geez!
IT SEEMS THAT STREET FIGHTER IRON FIST THAT WAS RELEASED RECENTLY HAS GARNERED A LOT OF AT-TENTION.

DIDN'T WE DO SOME-THING A LOT LIKE THIS BEFORE?
For example, Kagami's take the part of the dumb guy and I do the angry guy.
THE 62ND MEETING (OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT) OF THE ASSIGNED ROLLS SWAPPING SO-CIETY. YOU TAKE THE PART OF THE PERSON TO YOUR IMMEDIATE LEFT!!
LAST TIME IT WAS FULL IMPERSON-ATION.
DOOM

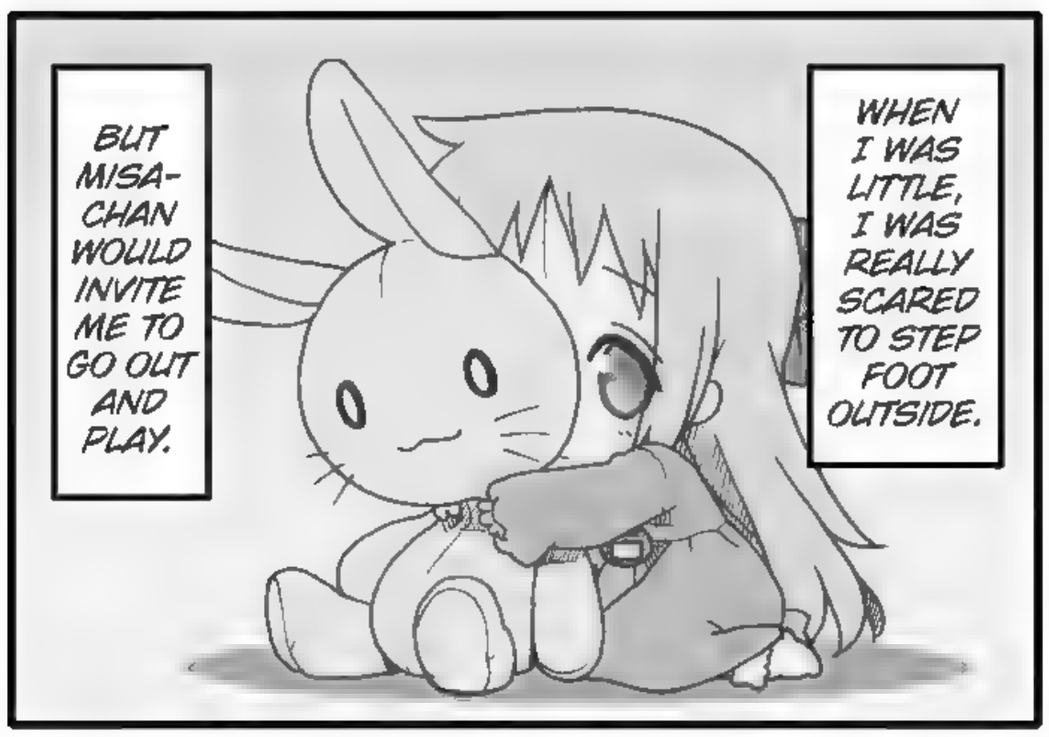

NO, OR MAYBE I SHOULD SAY YOU MAY NOT REALIZE IT BUT...
EVEN IF THERE ISN'T ANYBODY WHO WOULD UNDERSTAND THE SUBJECT, BRING-ING UP SUCH A WEIRD TOPIC IS LIKE KONATA, RIGHT?
THIS IS WHAT I FEEL HAP-PENS..


ALL YOU'RE TRYING TO DO IS FIND A ROUND-ABOUT WAY TO KEEP FROM STUDYING YOURSELF!
UMMM... I DIDN'T UNDER-STAND THAT LAST LECTURE AT ALL!
And I don't know what goes on in other people's colleges.
GLANCE GLANCE
Eh? That's my regular part?!

TH-THAT'S THE TRUTH! YOU KNOW IT IS!
N-NO!! WHAT I JUST DID WAS REPEAT SOMETHING YOU SAID EARLIER...
THIS PROVES THAT YOU ARE A FULL-FLEDGED OTAKU!
You didn't have to use actual otaku terms!
You can't say things like that without revealing a certain kind of knowl-edge.

UM... IT LOOKS LIKE ROLL SWAPPING... ...IS A COM-PLETE FAILURE!
AW, I GUESS THERE'S NO CHOICE! I'LL TEACH YOU WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW.
THEN I'M SUPPOSED TO PLAY HIIRAGI'S PART?

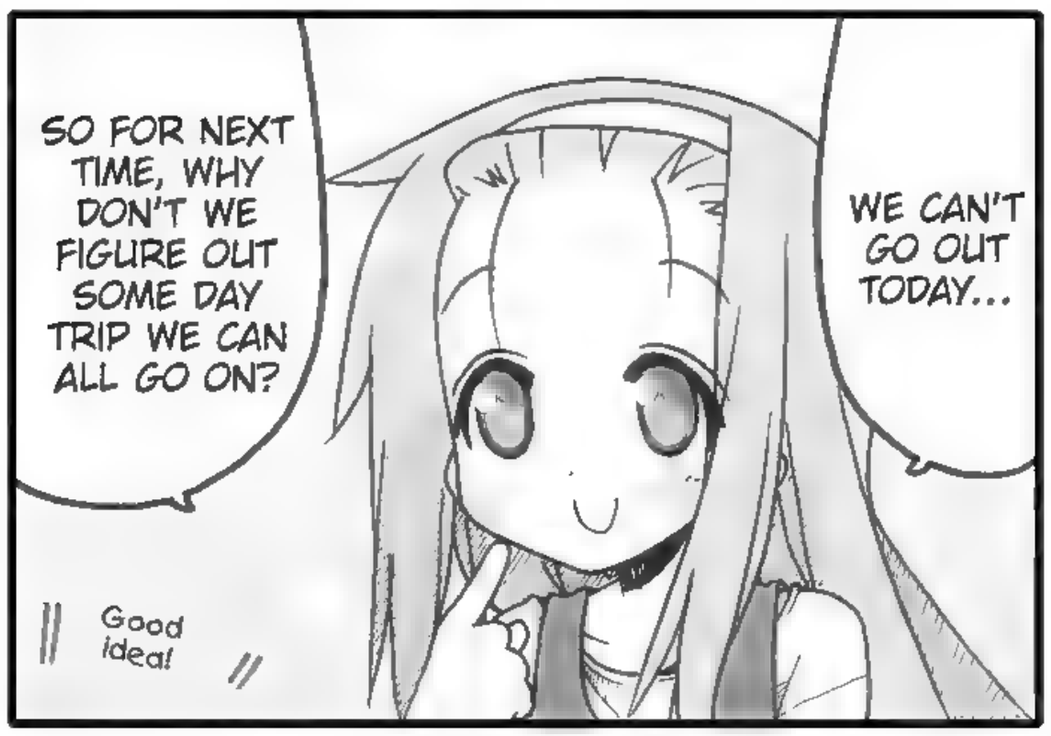
Ambush



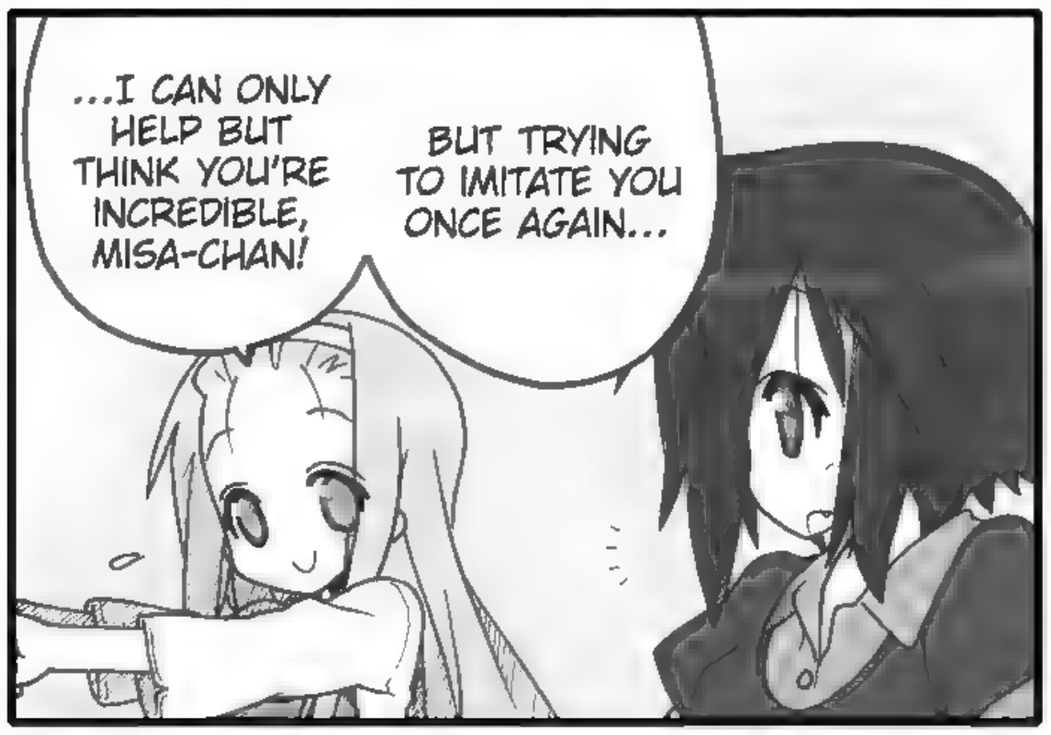
WE PLAYED TOGETH-ER AND LAUGHED TOGETH-ER.
Let's go out and play! We can go wherever you want, Minegishi!
SHE AL-WAYS LET ME DECIDE WHERE WE WERE GOING, AND SHE STAYED BY MY SIDE.

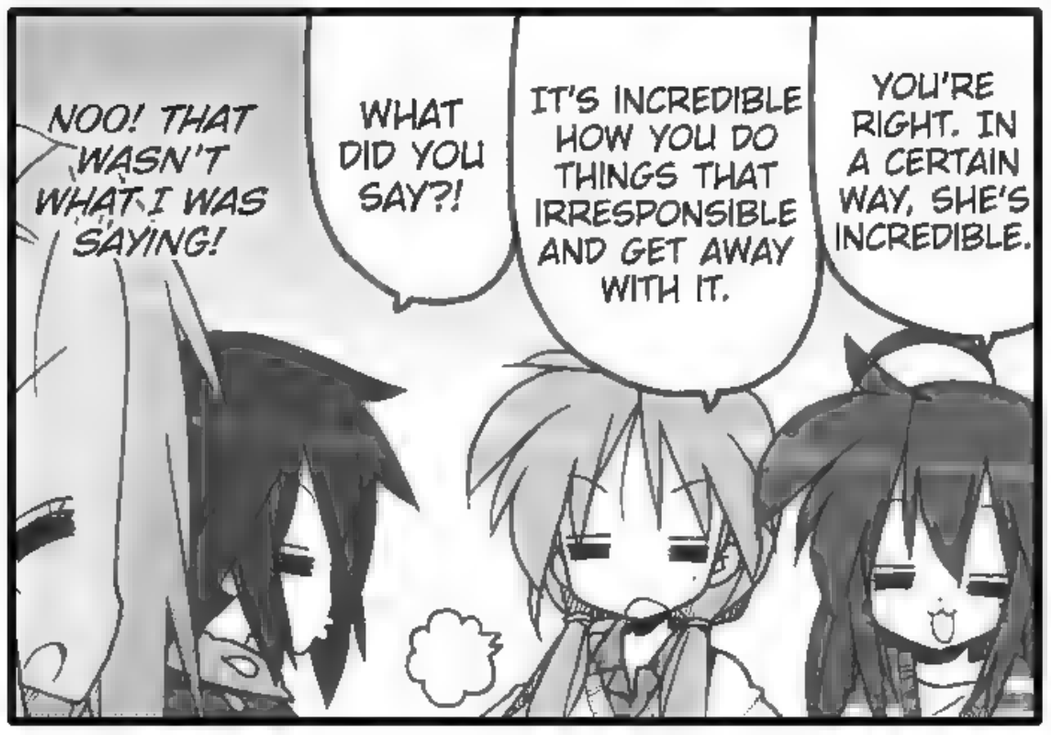
REALLY ?
EVEN NOW, THE ONLY REASON I CAN TALK SO COMFORTABLY WITH ALL OF YOU IS THANKS TO MISA-CHAN.
AND WITH TIME, IT BECAME LESS AND LESS STRESSFUL TO MEET NEW PEOPLE.
How wonder-ful!
IT'S ALWAYS SO MUCH FUN WITH YOU, AYA!

unintended agreement

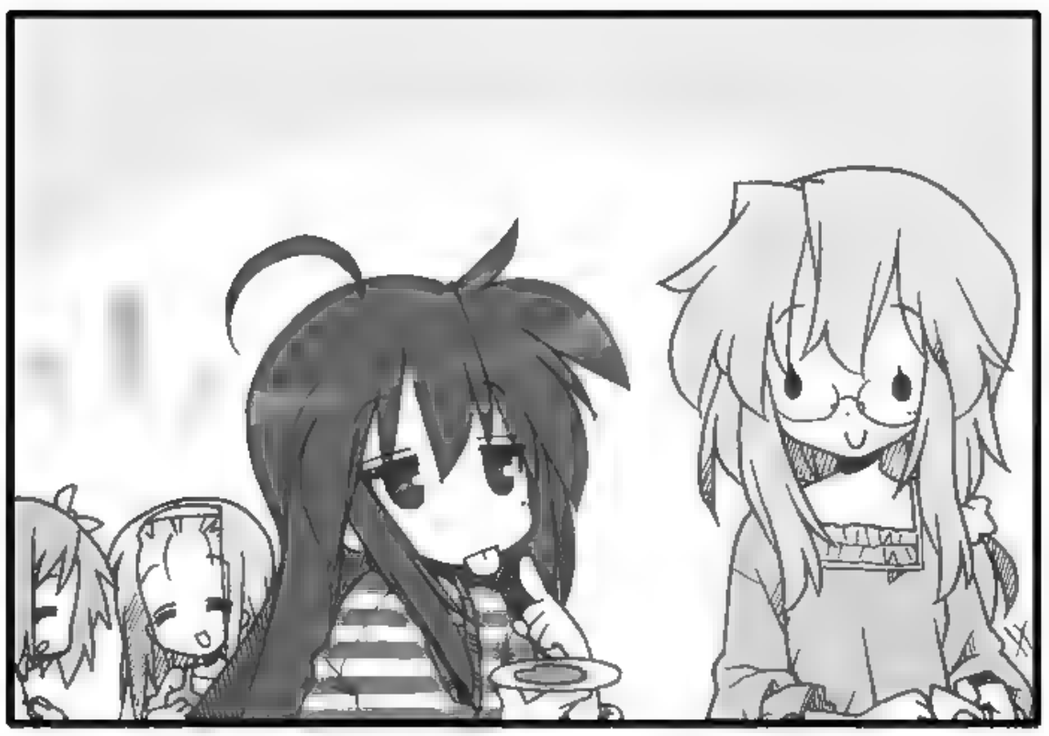


YOU JUST DO THE ORIGINAL IDEA AND LEAVE THE PLAN-NING TO SOME-BODY ELSE.
AH! NICELY DONE! KUSA-KABE TO A TEE!
EH?! YOU MEAN ME? O-OKAY...
And so...
I GET THE FEELING THAT TAKARA-SAN KNOWS THE GOOD SITES BEST, SO LET'S LET HER DO THE PLANNING.
You know what you're doing!
GRIN



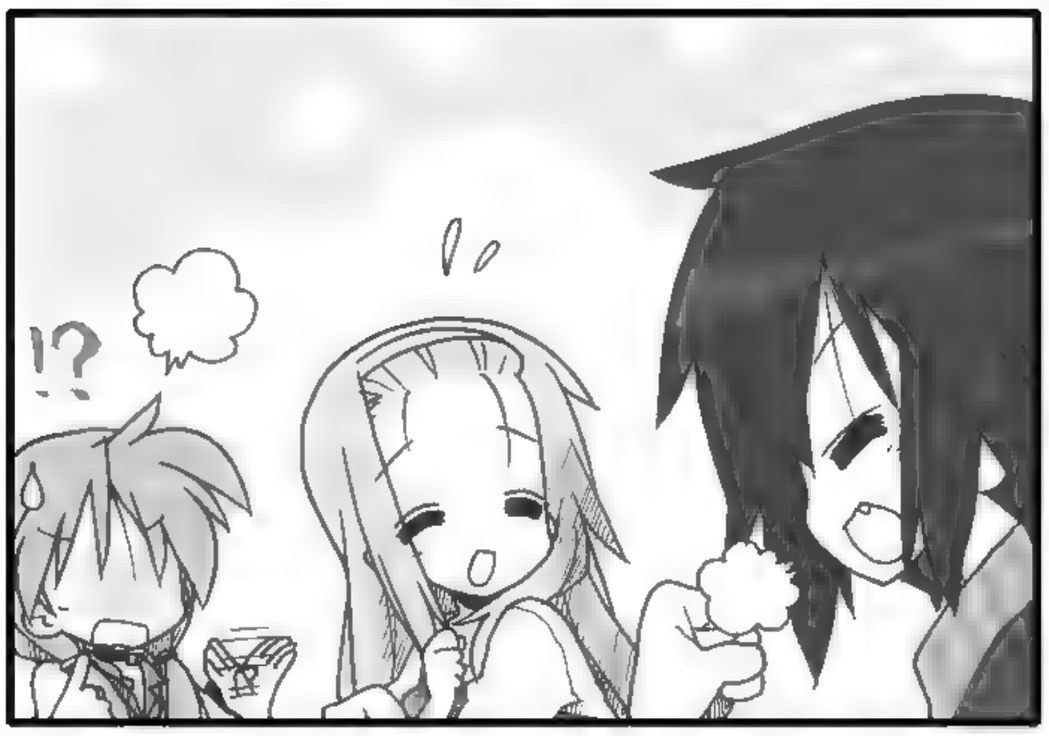

NOO! THAT WASN'T WHAT I WAS SAYING!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
IT'S INCREDIBLE HOW YOU DO THINGS THAT IRRESPONSIBLE AND GET AWAY WITH IT.
YOU'RE RIGHT. IN A CERTAIN WAY, SHE'S INCREDIBLE.

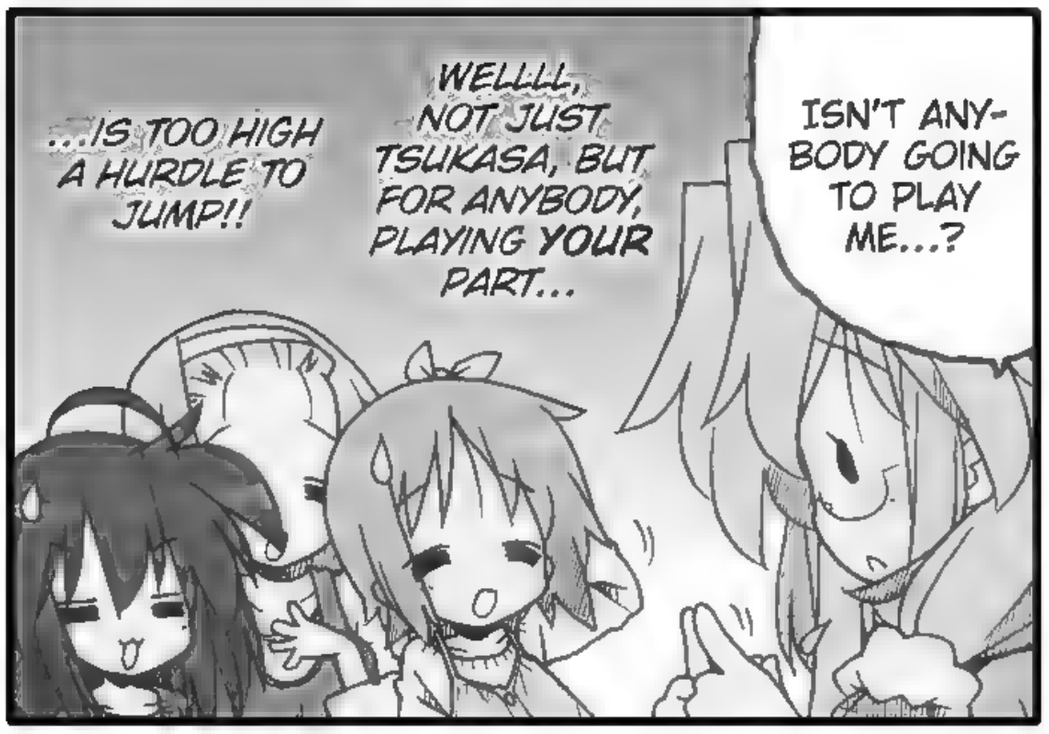
especially when combined (abridged version)



the eye of truth

HUMPH! WHO CARES, ANYWAY?
This is just between Aya and me!
BUT HOW CAN YOU GO DISSING SUCH A NICE COMPLIMENT TO YOUR-SELF?!
Even playing my part!
I KNOW THAT'S THE KIND OF THING I MIGHT SAY...
Here that was a sweet memory in Minegishi's mind!





YES, MA'AM!
I mean never!
I GET EMBAR-RASSED, SO DON'T EVER GO TELLING THAT STORY AGAIN! GOT IT?
AWW! THIS IS THE WHOLE REASON THAT I CAN NEVER COMPETE WITH AYA!

gift

Really? It sounds like fun!
We're going to swap roles.
SO NOW THAT EVERYBODY HAPPENS TO BE HERE, I THOUGHT WE'D TRY OUT SOMETHING I HEARD FROM ONEE-CHAN A LITTLE WHILE BACK.
Wakase-san, you want to try too?

BUT IF SOMEONE SUDDENLY ASKED ME TO DRAW SOME-THING, I DOUBT I COULD DO IT!
Tamura-san is always drawing, huh?
I SEE! IWASAKI-SAN IS TAKING TAMURA-SAN'S ROLE AND HAS BEEN DRAWING ALL ALONG.
NOD

plusses and minuses

CHATTER
CHATTER
YEAH, IT'S ME. IT SEEMS LIKE THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE HERE AFTER SCHOOL TODAY.
You had a council meeting of your own today, Iwasaki-san?

THEY ALREADY TALKED TO ME, AND I JUST CAME BACK FROM THAT.
I'm just waiting for Yutaka.
THE TEACHER ASKED ME TO STAY HAVING SOMETHING TO SAY TO ME.

It's like the difference between a commendation and detention.
BUT THE WAY THOSE TWO HANDLE THEIR BEING-CALLED IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.
WHAT IS THIS? IT WAS THE SAME "CALL FROM THE TEACHER!"

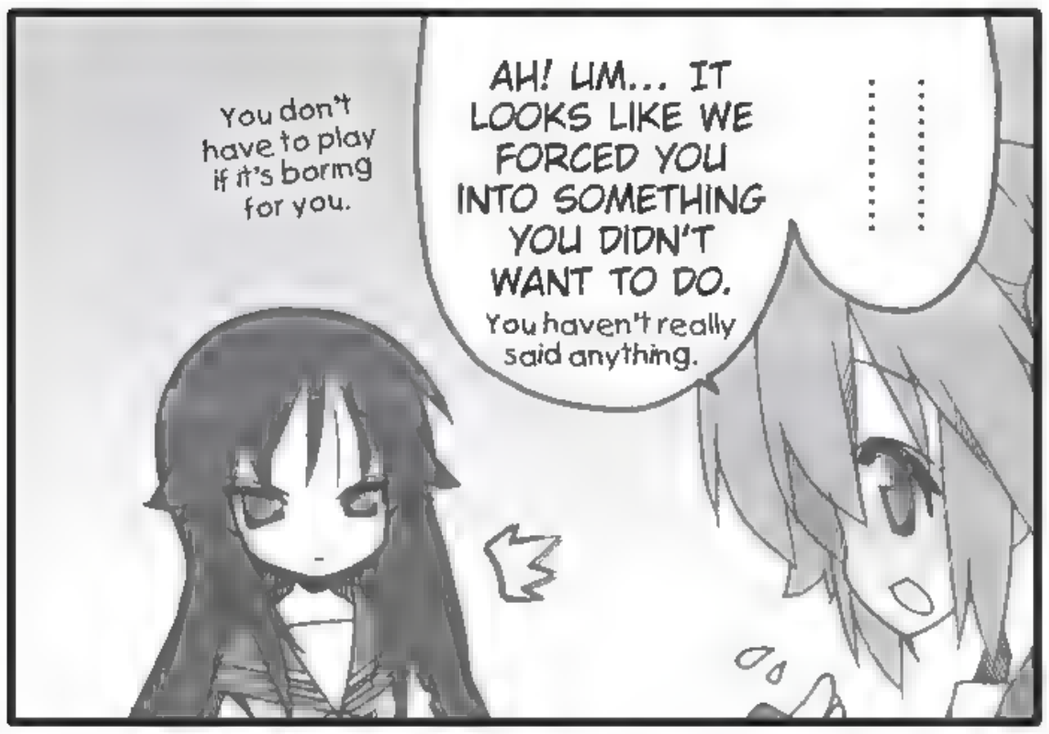
YukariTakara

HonokaIwasaki

Cherry

episode 236 the ordinary scenery

the opposite side


You don't have to play if it's boring for you.
AH! UM... IT LOOKS LIKE WE FORCED YOU INTO SOMETHING YOU DIDN'T WANT TO DO.
You haven't really said anything.
.....

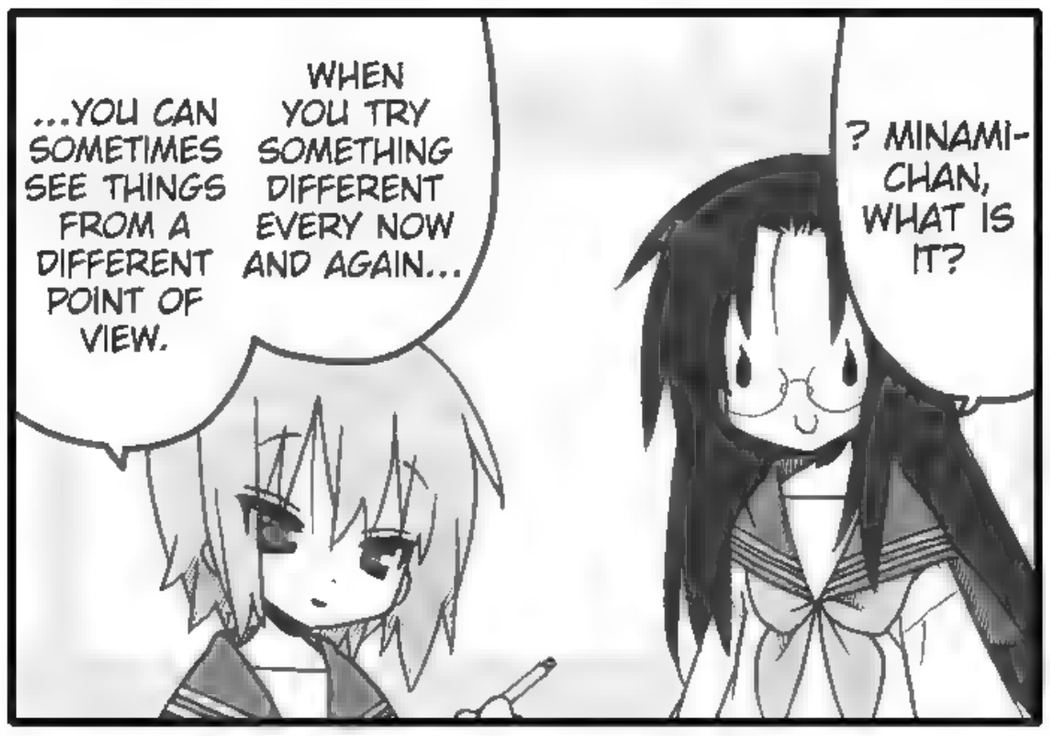
• Comptiq, October 2010 issue

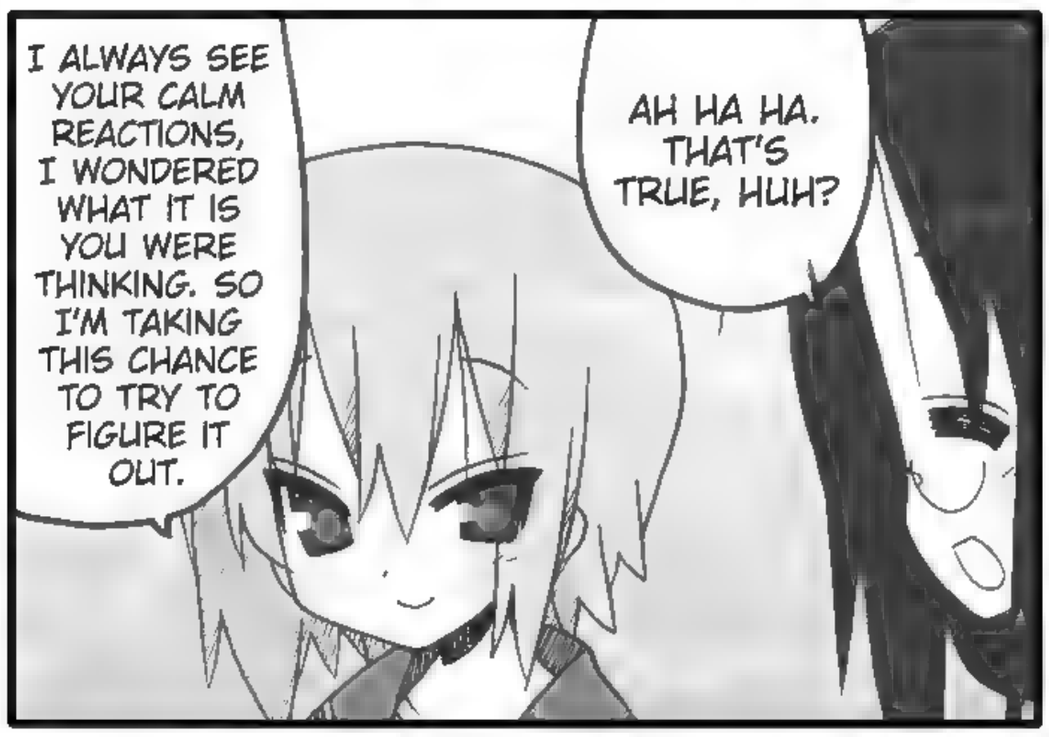
running gag

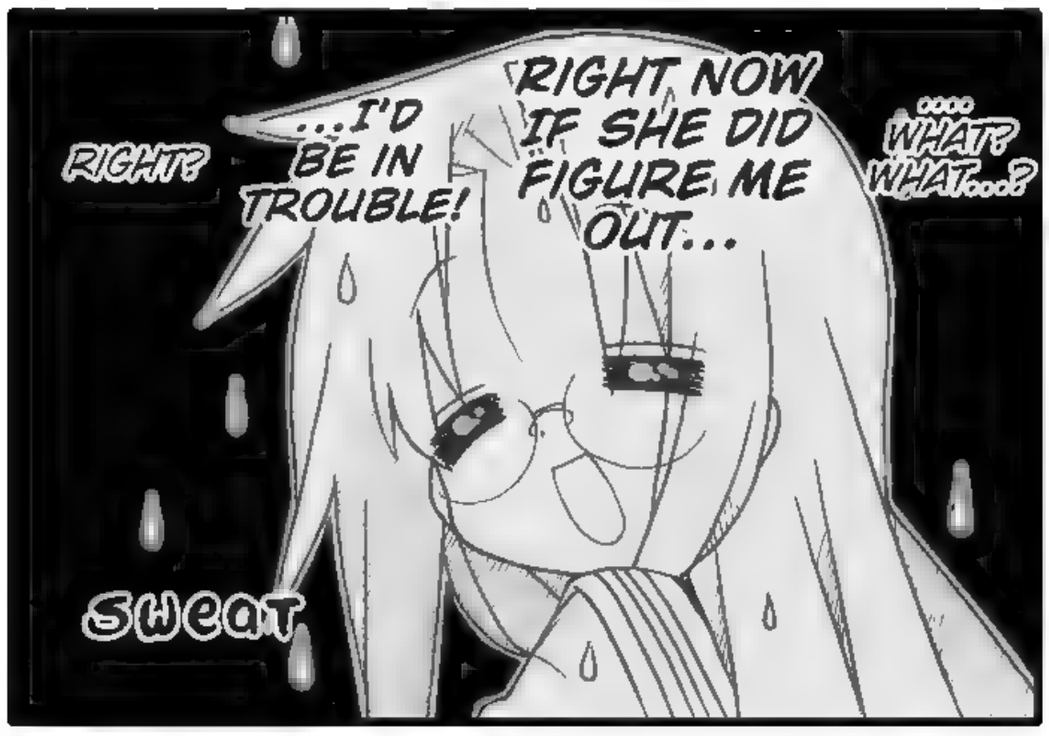
I REALIZE SHE ISN'T A TWIN TAILS OR TSUNDERE, OR GLASSES GIRL... IT'S REALLY HARD!
NOTHING, JUST THAT WHEN I THOUGHT I'D TRY TO DO IZUMI...

Is that right...?
EASY TO UNDERSTAND IMAGE...
JUST DO ME FROM WHATEVER EASY-TO-UNDERSTAND IMAGE YOU HAVE OF ME.
NO NEED TO THINK ABOUT IT SO MUCH!
AH!
Yeah, Yeah,

the unforeseen accident


...YOU CAN SOMETIMES SEE THINGS FROM A DIFFERENT POINT OF VIEW.
WHEN YOU TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT EVERY NOW AND AGAIN...
? MINAMI-CHAN, WHAT IS IT?


I ALWAYS SEE YOUR CALM REACTIONS, I WONDERED WHAT IT IS YOU WERE THINKING. SO I'M TAKING THIS CHANCE TO TRY TO FIGURE IT OUT.
AH HA HA. THAT'S TRUE, HUH?



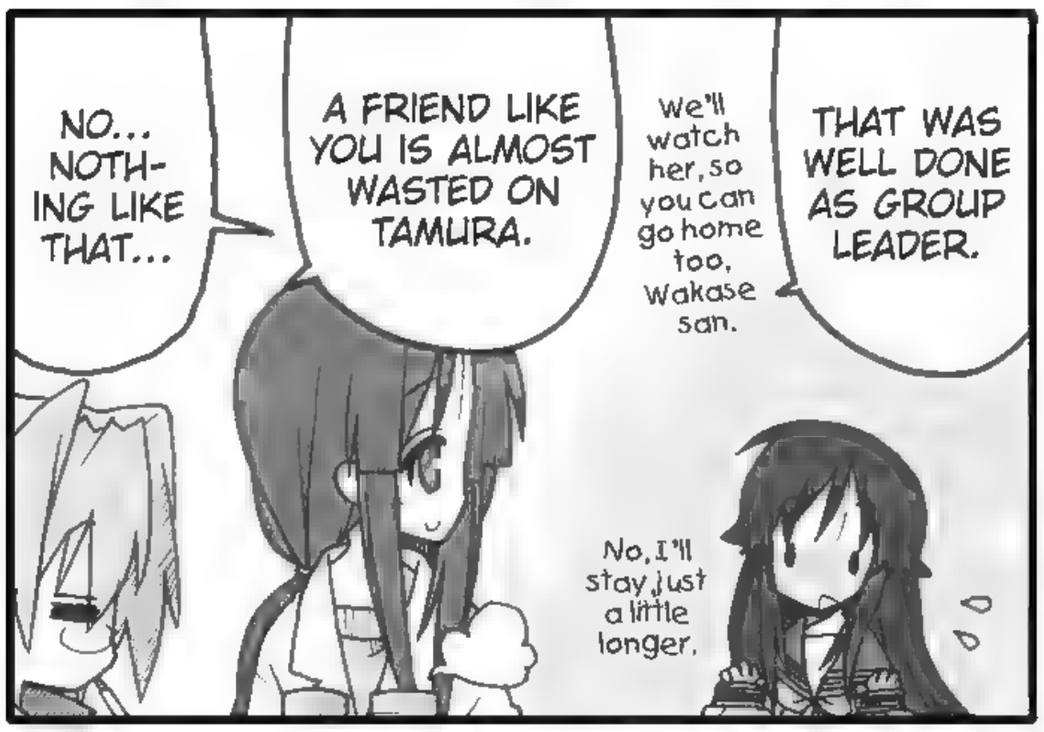
untying the knot

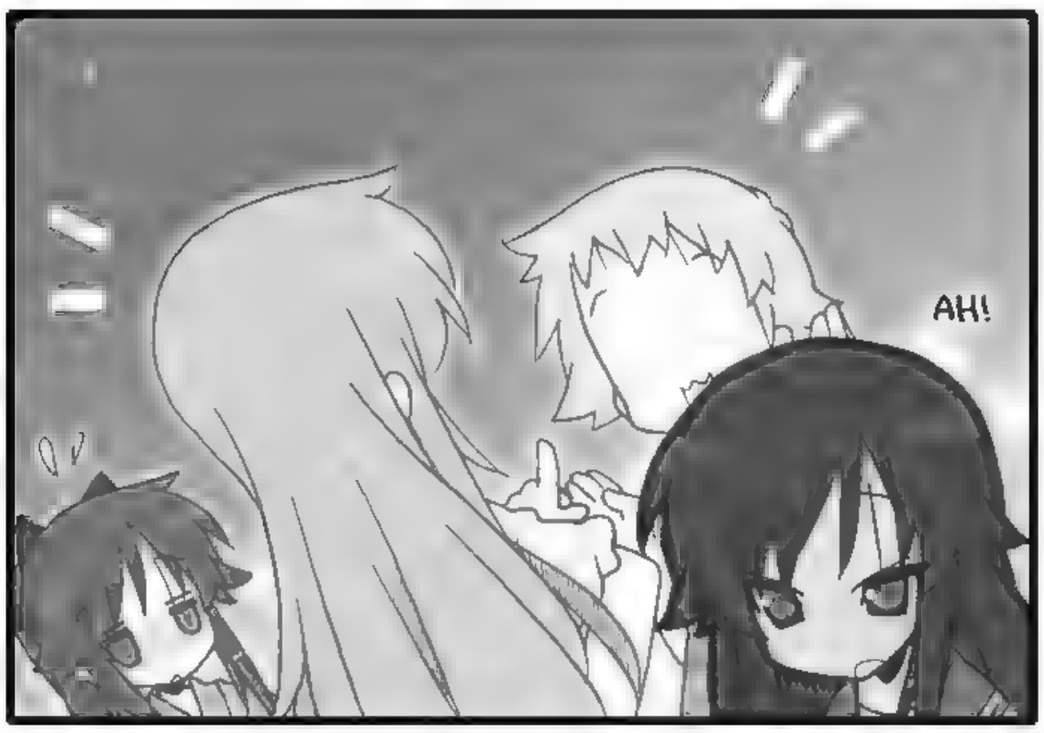
role

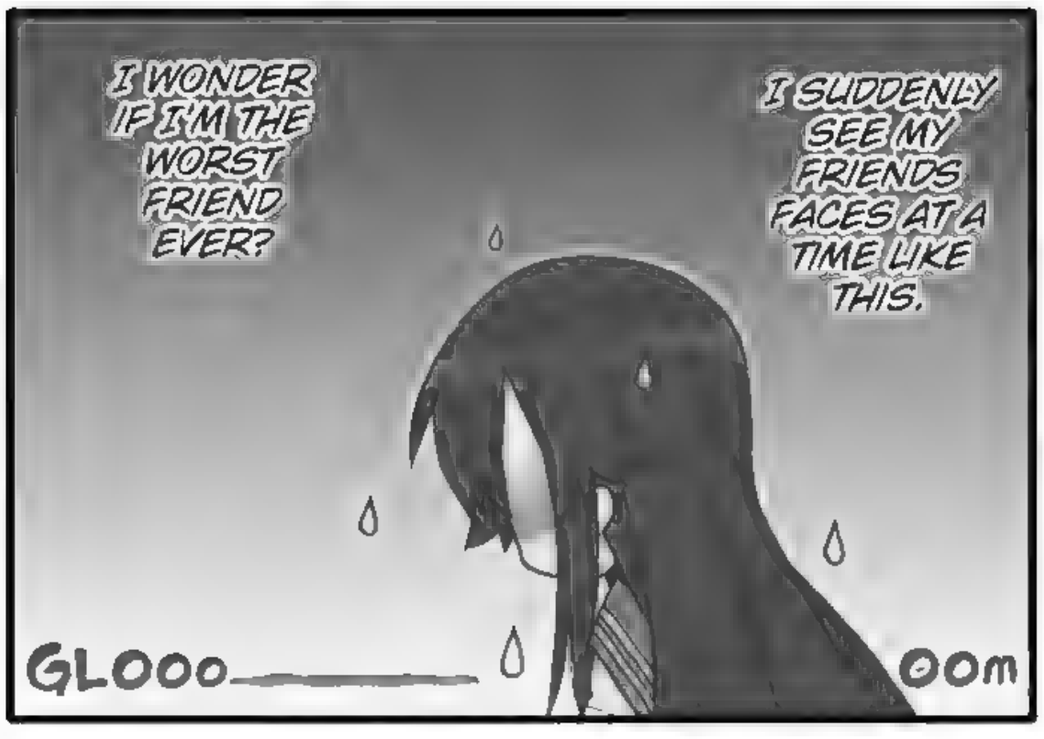
AWW, HIYORI-CHAN, THAT'S JUST AWFUL! I KNOW I MAY BE LIKE THAT, BUT WHEN YOU'RE PLAYING MY ROLE...
And I haven't done it that much recently.
UHHHNN... I SUDDENLY FEEL DIZZY...
WOBBLE
WOBBLE

the natural and unnatural

AND IF A PERSON DOING HOME STAY IS OUT LATE, IT WILL CAUSE THE HOST FAMILY EXTRA WORRIES. WHY DON'T YOU AND KO-BAYAKAWA HEAD HOME TOO?
B-BUT, I...
IWASAKI-SAN, IT'S A LONG WAY TO TOKYO, SO YOU'D BETTER HEAD BACK.
SO WILL I...
IF YOU JUST GET A LITTLE REST, YOU'LL BE FINE.
I'm right here for you!

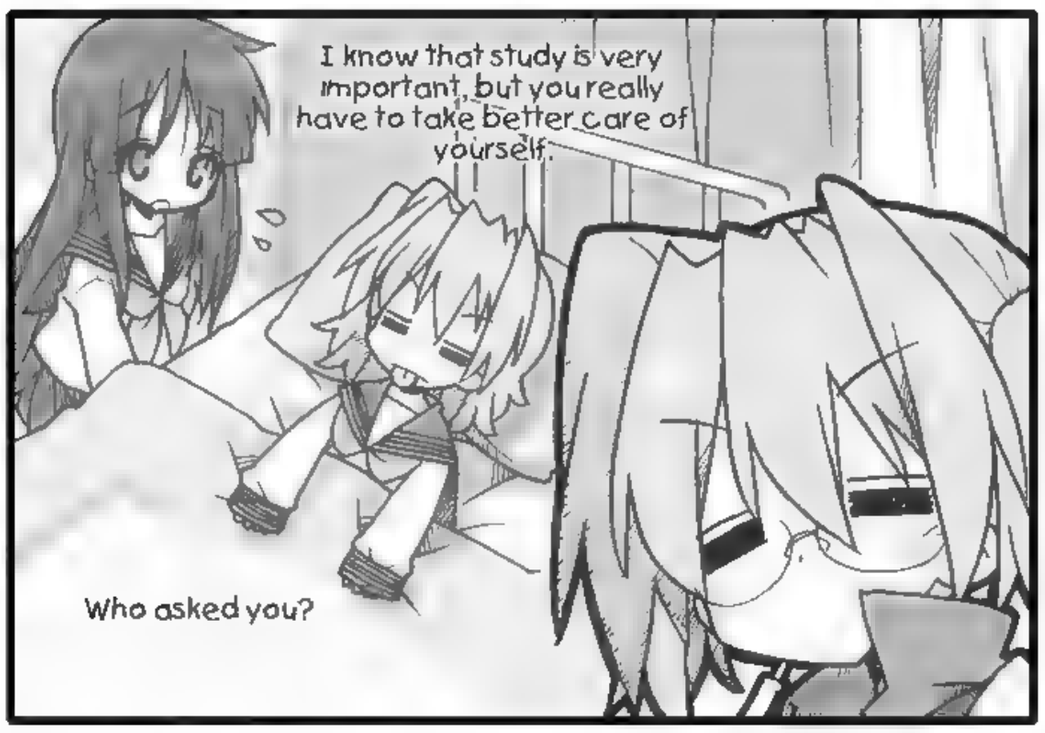

NO... NOTH-ING LIKE THAT...
A FRIEND LIKE YOU IS ALMOST WASTED ON TAMURA.
We'll watch her, so you can go home too, Wakase san.
THAT WAS WELL DONE AS GROUP LEADER.
No, I'll stay just a little longer.



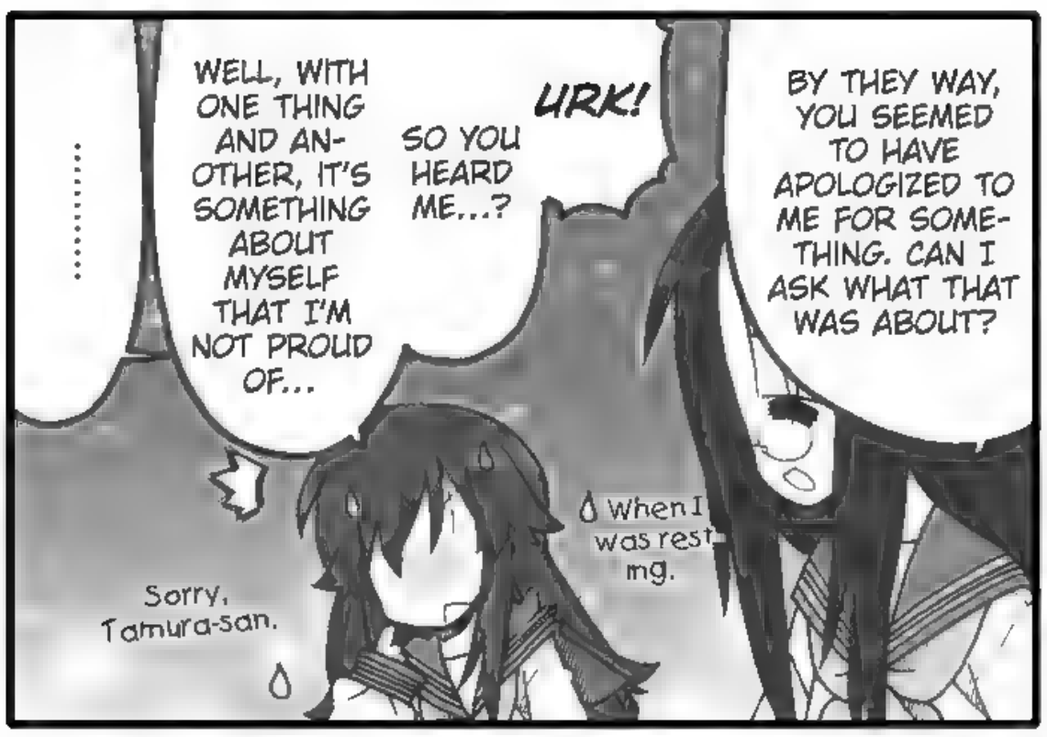


• Drawn for this volume.

history repeating itself



the light that shines


.....
WELL, WITH ONE THING AND ANOTHER, IT'S SOMETHING ABOUT MYSELF THAT I'M NOT PROUD OF...
SO YOU HEARD ME...?
URK!
BY THEY WAY, YOU SEEMED TO HAVE APOLOGIZED TO ME FOR SOMETHING. CAN I ASK WHAT THAT WAS ABOUT?
Sorry, Tamura-san.
When I was resting.

!?
THERE IS NO HUMAN BEING WITHOUT A UGLY PART OR TWO TO THEM.
BUT SOME HUMANS ARE ABLE TO OUTSHINE THEIR OWN UGLINESS.
Eh? What?
ONE TRUTH ABOUT THE UNIVERSE: THE WORLD DOESN'T RUN ON PRETTY WORDS ALONE!!

EH? NO... I WAS TALKING ABOUT WHAT GOOD PEOPLE YOU ALL ARE!
I GUESS PEOPLE WHO LIVE BY THEIR VALUES CAN SAY SOME HEAVY STUFF.
.....
HEH HEH

one conclusion

• Drawn for this volume.

Tamaki Yamabe

Miku Busushima

I've been through a lot lately.
I DON'T GET TO THIS TYPE OF STORE TOO OFTEN, SO I WENT A LITTLE WILD.
YOU BOUGHT TOO MUCH STUFF AGAIN, DIDN'T YOU...?
Tons
IT'S TRUE THAT WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT IT, YOU SEEM VERY HAPPY.
So, good for you.
AND PERSONALLY, IT'S LIKE A HAPPY REVIVAL.
From Gamers

AND IF IT BECOMES THE REASON THAT PEOPLE KNOW THAT IT'S A GOOD BOOK TO BUY, THAT'S A GOOD THING, RIGHT?
WELL, ISN'T THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS THAT PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT HOW IT CHANGED?
Not that I can predict those things.
?
I'M ACTUALLY A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT HOW OTHER PEOPLE WILL TAKE TO IT.
BUT IT'S CHANGED ITS ATMOSPHERE QUITE A BIT SINCE THE LAST TIME.
After they know, it then becomes a matter of personal taste.
I mean it isn't something I should be worried about.

I WASN'T TALKING ABOUT THIS "COMP FESTIVAL 55*" OR WHATEVER IT IS THAT YOU'RE ALWAYS GOING ON ABOUT!
Don't take it the wrong way!
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE SUCH A FAN OF THE 4-PANEL STRIPS IN FROM GAMERS!
THAT'S IT! KAGAMI, YOU SAID SOMETHING REALLY DEEP!
You seemed a little down, and I was just trying to cheer you up!

* Look in April's Comptiq for more details!

There you go all half baked again!

I thought I'd be able to get to Gamers more frequently, but conditions changed so I can't go as often as I'd like.

• From Gamers, April 2010 issue.

episode 237

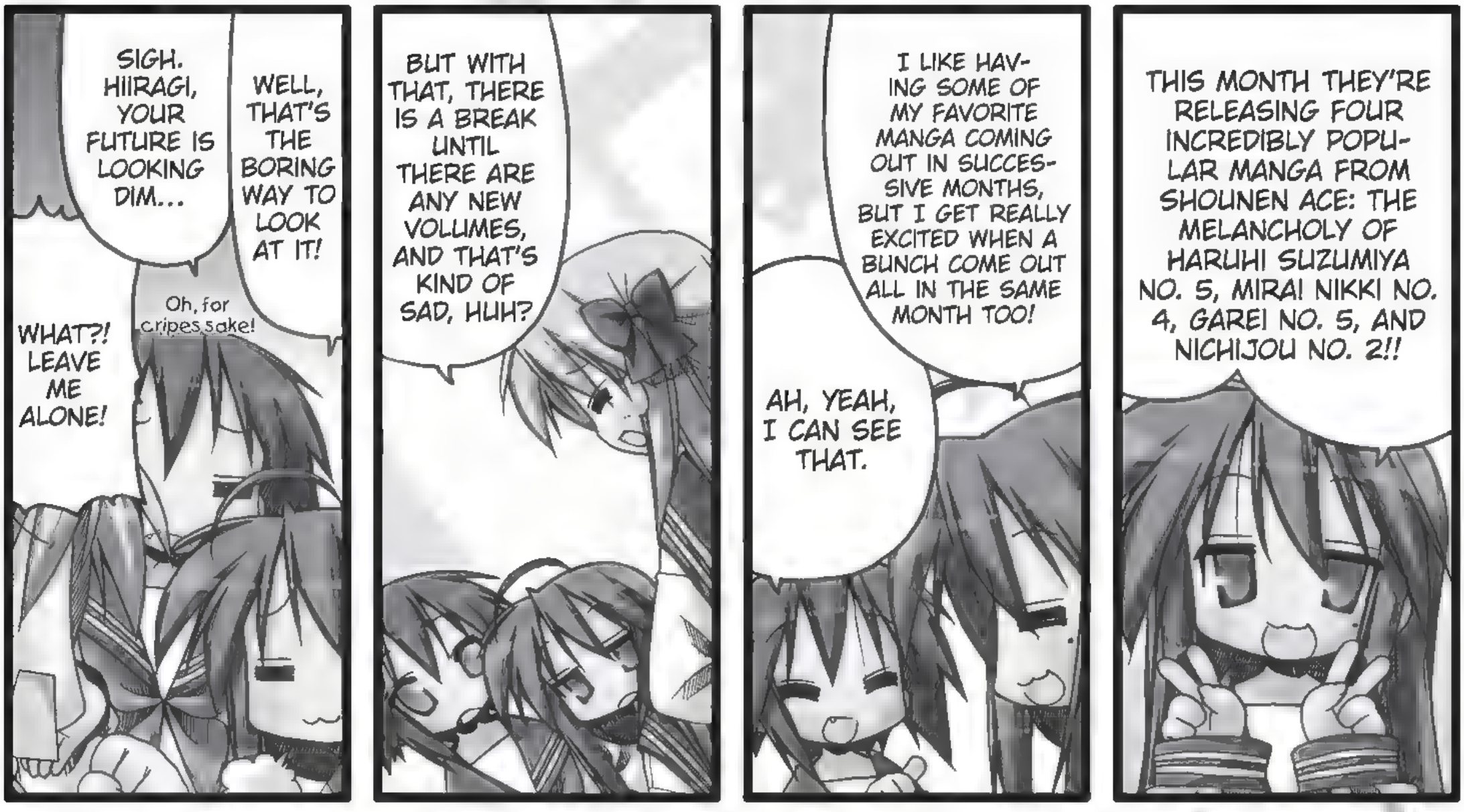
the front lines at that time

Kadokawa Hot Line
The Latest News from Kadokawa Shoten that You Can Read and Use.

Kadokawa Hot Line is
a catalog of new releases from Kadokawa Shouten to be used by book shops.
These catalogs are not released to the general public.

No. 34 collect and collect more

Introducing the popular manga, The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya No. 5, Mirai Nikki No. 4, Garei (The Enchained Spiritual Beast) No. 5, and Nichijou, No. 2. (2007, October issue)


SIGH. HIIRAGI, YOUR FUTURE IS LOOKING DIM...
WELL, THAT'S THE BORING WAY TO LOOK AT IT!
Oh, for cripes sake!
WHAT?! LEAVE ME ALONE!
BUT WITH THAT, THERE IS A BREAK UNTIL THERE ARE ANY NEW VOLUMES, AND THAT'S KIND OF SAD, HUH?
I LIKE HAVING SOME OF MY FAVORITE MANGA COMING OUT IN SUCCESSIVE MONTHS, BUT I GET REALLY EXCITED WHEN A BUNCH COME OUT ALL IN THE SAME MONTH TOO!
AH, YEAH, I CAN SEE THAT.
THIS MONTH THEY'RE RELEASING FOUR INCREDIBLY POPULAR MANGA FROM SHOUNEN ACE: THE MELANCHOLY OF HARUHI SUZUMIYA NO. 5, MIRAI NIKKI NO. 4, GAREI NO. 5, AND NICHIJOU NO. 2!!

collect and collect more

No. 35 ethnic

Introducing Kidou Senshi Gundam The Origin No. 16 and other Gundam products. (2007, November issue)

No. 36 our town

Introducing a combined event that takes place in Washinomiya-machi (presently, as of 2010, the town of Kuki-shi). (2007, December issue)

Even people who love both the new and old see the various series as different products.

A LOVE OF GENRE THAT RISES ABOVE A PROGRAM'S TITLE -- THAT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A MANIAC!

THEY MAY BE ALL GUNDAM, BUT THEY'RE SEPARATE ITEMS!

COME TO THINK OF IT, OTAKU DO LOVE THEIR NICHES, DON'T THEY?

BASICALLY, WHEN A PERSON IS CALLED GUN-OTA, THEY'RE USUALLY TALKING ABOUT FANS WHO ONLY LOVE FIRST GUNDAM.

Strictly speaking, you and I are not those people.

IT'S ALL GUN-DAM, SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

KONATA, YOU MAKE DUMB STATEMENTS LIKE THAT, AND YOU'RE GOING TO GET LOADS OF FLAMES DIRECTED AT YOU!

THERE'S EVEN A MANGA CALLED GUN-OTA NO ONNA (GUNDAM OTAKU GIRL)! JUST LIKE ME, HUH?

THIS MONTH, THEY'RE COMING OUT WITH A PLETHORA ITEMS IN THE GUNDAM LINEUP, STARTING OFF WITH KIDOU SENSHI GUNDAM THE ORIGIN NO. 16!

WAIT, DID YOU JUST ADVERTISE FOR YOUR *OWN* FAMILY'S SHRINE?!

HUH? HUH?? WE WERE SUPPOSED TO TALK ABOUT THE WASHINOMI-YA JINJA SHRINE, BUT KAGAMI, YOUR FAM-ILY...

I-I DID NOT!! I WAS JUST TRYING TO HELP IN THE REVITALIZA-TION PLANS OF THE TOWN!!

WE SAY "ADVERTISE," BUT IT ISN'T REALLY ABOUT THE BOOKS. WASHINOMIYA-MACHI AND KADOKAWA SHOUTEN HAVE TEAMED UP FOR THIS. WE'RE ALL ABOUT CURLING UP WITH A GOOD BOOK, BUT IN A SEASON LIKE THIS, HOW ABOUT STRETCHING YOUR LEGS A BIT AND WALKING TO YOUR NEAREST SHRINE TO GET A BREATH OF FRESH AIR INTO YOUR SOUL?

TRUE... BUT I'M SURE IT'S BECAUSE THERE HAVE JUST BEEN ALL THAT GREAT MANGA COMING OUT THIS YEAR.

IT SEEMS LIKE A LONG TIME SINCE WE'VE ADVERTISED AN EVENT RATHER THAN JUST MANGA TITLES.

THE 2007 WINTER COMP FESTIVAL IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!!

2007 WINTER COMP FESTIVAL

37

In the end, it all depends on attitude, huh?

I-IT'S TRUE, HUH? I GUESS PEOPLE HAVE THEIR OWN IDEAS ON HOW GOOD FORTUNE IS INTERPRETED!

H-HOW INNOCENT AND SPARKLY CAN YOU GET?!

?

AH! YEAH, I HAD A FIRST DREAM OF HOW, EVEN THOUGH WE GRADUATED TO THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR, I WAS IN THE SAME CLASS AS MINAMI-CHAN AND TAMURA-SAN AND EVERYBODY! SO I GET THE FEELING THIS WILL BE A GOOD YEAR!

I didn't see Mt. Fuji or hawks or anything, though.

AH HA HA! I DIDN'T EVEN DREAM... KOBAYAKAWA-SAN, YOU SEEM IN A GOOD MOOD!

MY FIRST DREAM OF THE YEAR WASN'T ABOUT MT. FUJI, OR EGGPLANTS OR ANYTHING...

I think I got a bad start this year.

That's usually the case.

AND ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT AGAIN THIS YEAR!

WE WANT TO THANK ONE AND ALL FOR HELPING US OUT LAST YEAR!

HAPPY NEW YEAR'S EVERYBODY!

various types of happiness

Bringing in lots of converts.

...IS ACTUALLY PROCEEDING AN A PRETTY QUICK PACE.

EVEN THEIR LACKADAISICAL, NEVER-GAINING-ANY-TRACTION INVASION OF THE EARTH...

WELL, I GUESS YOU CAN SAY THAT.

TRUE, HUH?

THAT'S HOW MUCH THE FROG HAS OVERWHELMED THE WORLD, ISN'T IT?

KERORO GUNSOU VOL. 16, THE 4-PANEL KERORO MANGA, MUSHA KERORO, KERORO LAND VOL. 19, AND KERORO ACE, VOL. 4. ..... PRETTY AMAZING.

TODAY WE'RE ALL ABOUT THE KERORO!

OHH!

MUSHA = SAMURAI-STYLE

KERORO GUNSOU = SGT. FROG

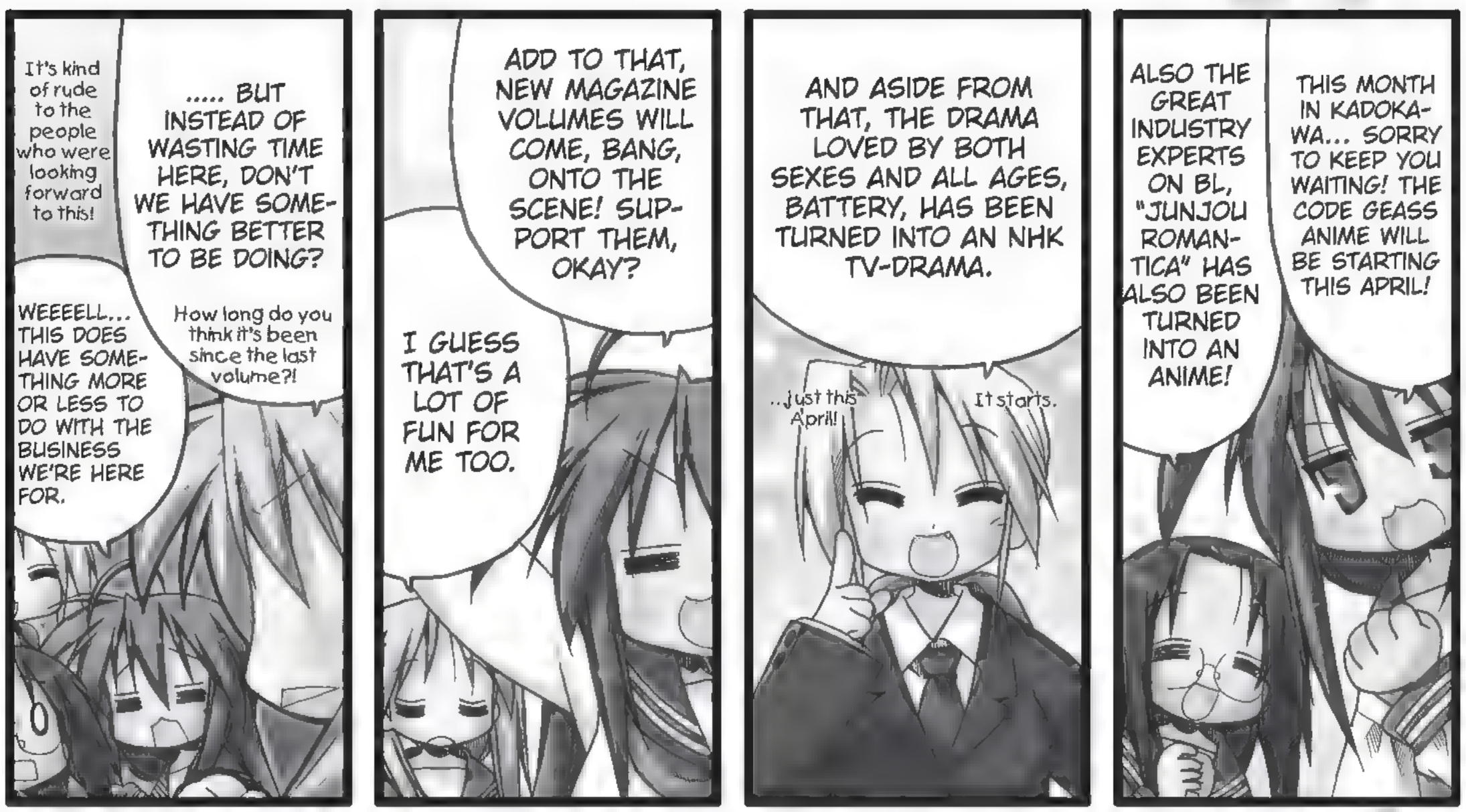
great influence

No. 37 various types of happiness

Konata, Yutaka and Hiyori present their New-Year's greetings. (2008, January issue)

No. 38 great influence

Information on multiple Keroro Gunsou starting with Keroro Gunsou Vol. 16. (2008, February issue)


It's kind of rude to the people who were looking forward to this!
..... BUT INSTEAD OF WASTING TIME HERE, DON'T WE HAVE SOMETHING BETTER TO BE DOING?
WEEEELL... THIS DOES HAVE SOMETHING MORE OR LESS TO DO WITH THE BUSINESS WE'RE HERE FOR.
How long do you think it's been since the last volume?!
ADD TO THAT, NEW MAGAZINE VOLUMES WILL COME, BANG, ONTO THE SCENE! SUPPORT THEM, OKAY?
I GUESS THAT'S A LOT OF FUN FOR ME TOO.
AND ASIDE FROM THAT, THE DRAMA LOVED BY BOTH SEXES AND ALL AGES, BATTERY, HAS BEEN TURNED INTO AN NHK TV-DRAMA.
..Just this April!
It starts.
ALSO THE GREAT INDUSTRY EXPERTS ON BL, "JUNJOU ROMANTICA" HAS ALSO BEEN TURNED INTO AN ANIME!
THIS MONTH IN KADOKAWA... SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING! THE CODE GEASS ANIME WILL BE STARTING THIS APRIL!

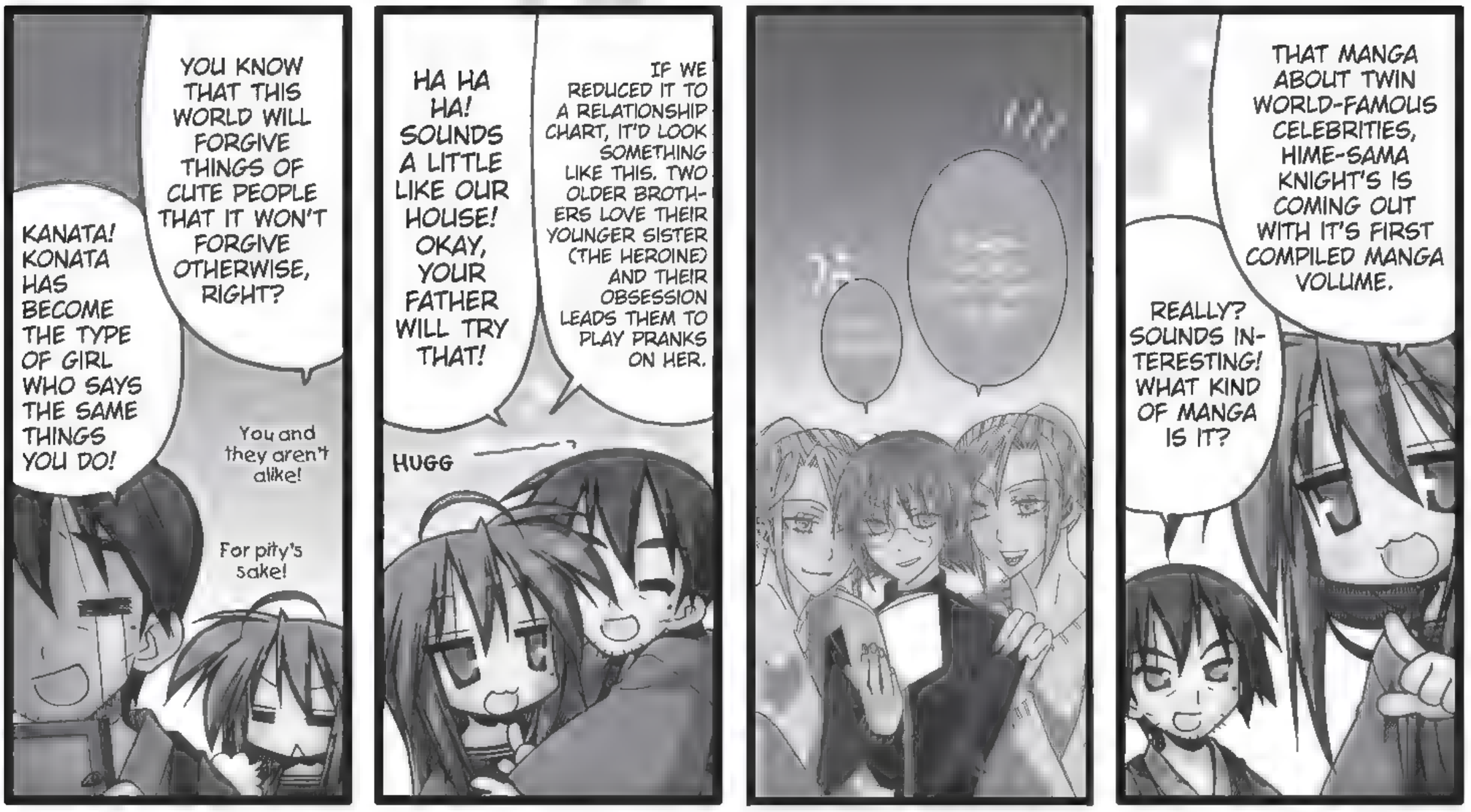
No. 39 the party next door

Information on the anime versions of Code Geass: Hangyaku no Lelouch and Junjou Romatica, and the dramatization of Battery. (2008, February issue)

No. 40 sensei, thanks for the treat

Introducing Hime-sama Knights Vol. 1. (2008, April issue)

*Panel two was drawn for us by Suzu Kouno-sensei.


KANATA! KONATA HAS BECOME THE TYPE OF GIRL WHO SAYS THE SAME THINGS YOU DO!
YOU KNOW THAT THIS WORLD WILL FORGIVE THINGS OF CUTE PEOPLE THAT IT WON'T FORGIVE OTHERWISE, RIGHT?
You and they aren't alike!
For pity's sake!
HA HA HA! SOUNDS A LITTLE LIKE OUR HOUSE! OKAY, YOUR FATHER WILL TRY THAT!
IF WE REDUCED IT TO A RELATIONSHIP CHART, IT'D LOOK SOMETHING LIKE THIS. TWO OLDER BROTHERS LOVE THEIR YOUNGER SISTER (THE HEROINE) AND THEIR OBSESSION LEADS THEM TO PLAY PRANKS ON HER.
HUGG
THAT MANGA ABOUT TWIN WORLD-FAMOUS CELEBRITIES, HIME-SAMA KNIGHT'S IS COMING OUT WITH IT'S FIRST COMPILED MANGA VOLUME.
REALLY? SOUNDS INTERESTING! WHAT KIND OF MANGA IS IT?

sensei, thanks for the treat

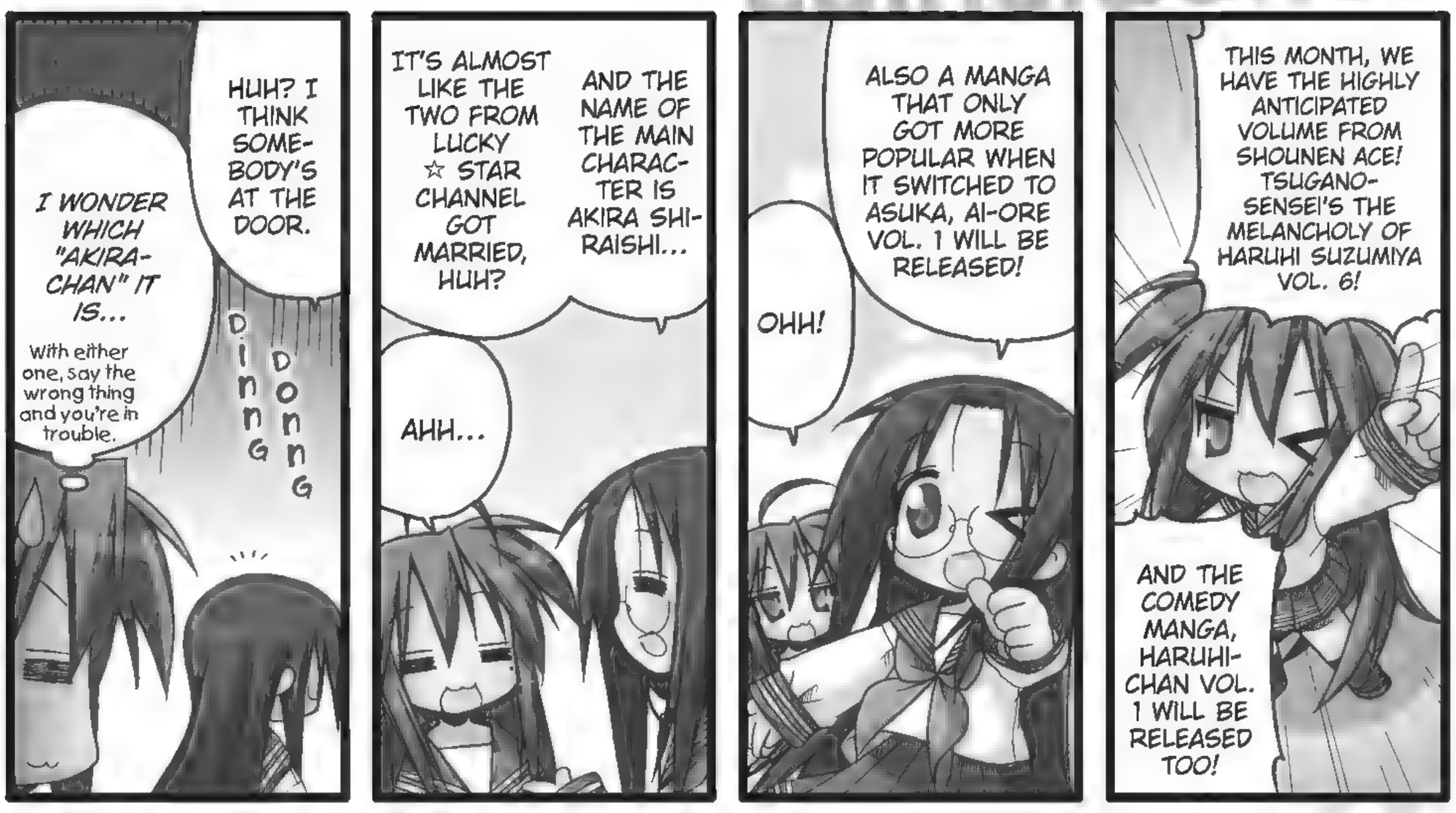
No. 41 an odd coincidence

Introducing The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya Vol. 6, The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya-chan Vol. 1, an Ai-Ore Vol. 1. (2008, May issue)

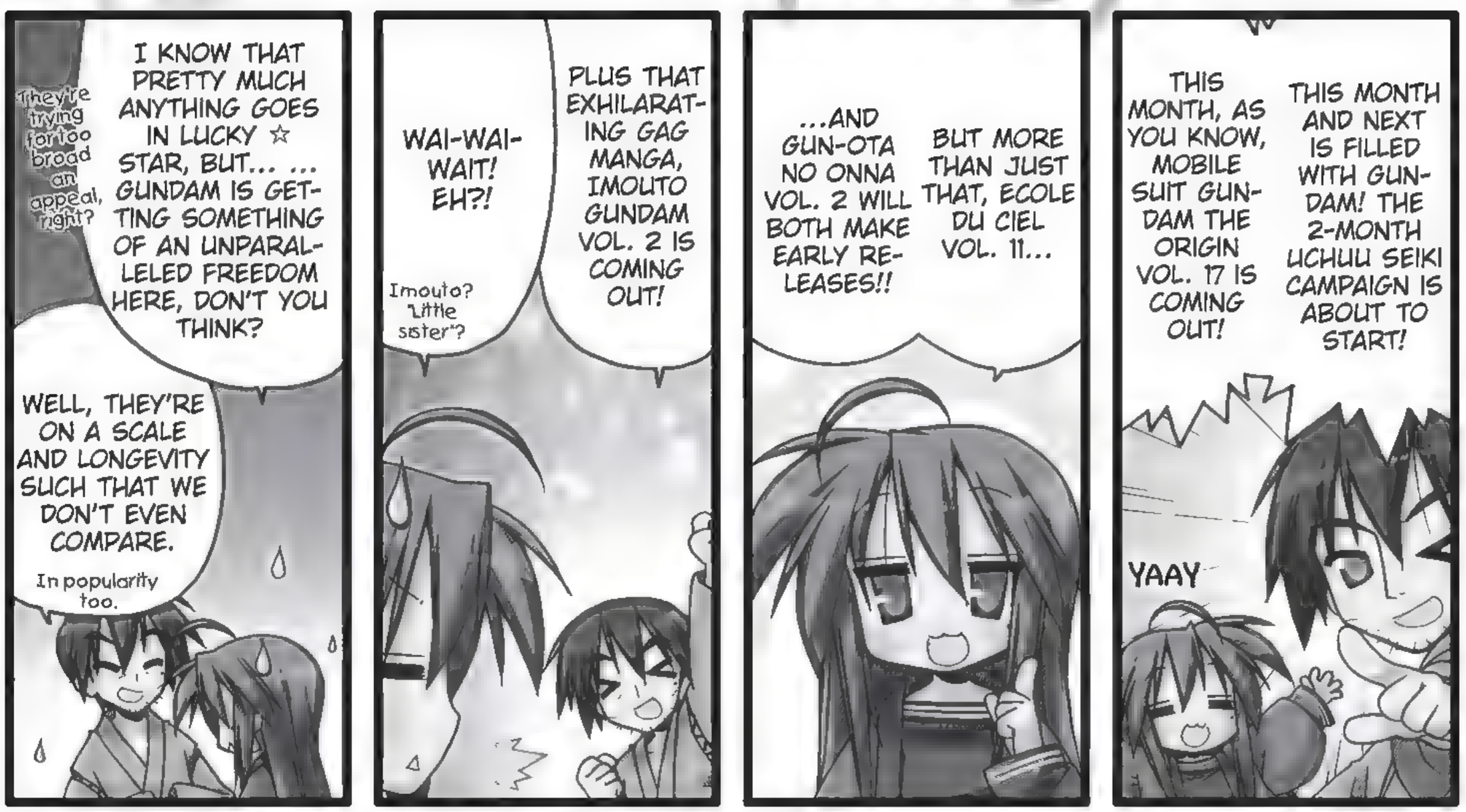
No. 42 spacey

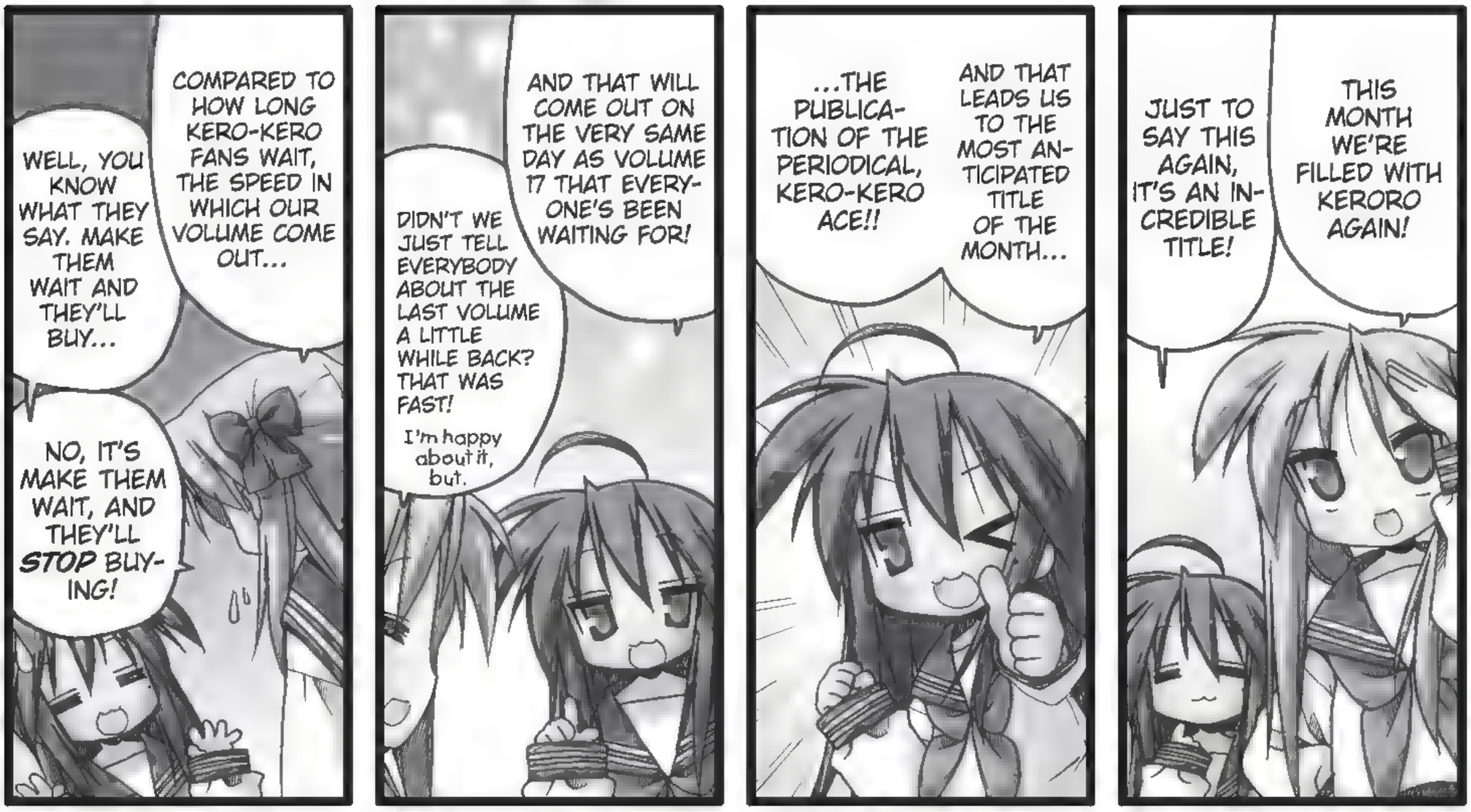
Information on the 2-month Uchuu Seiki Campaign and the Gundam Products involved in it. (2008, June issue)

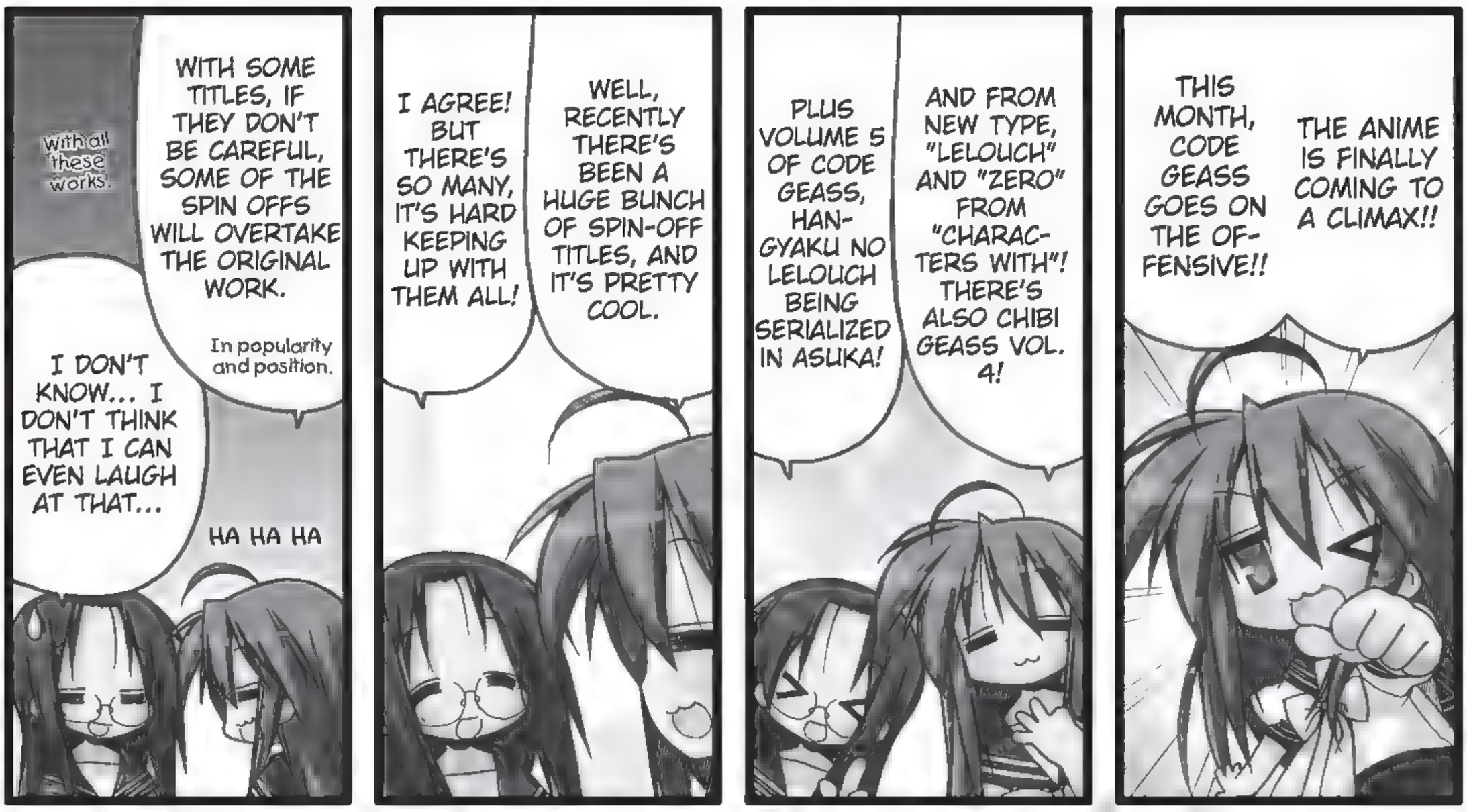
41 an odd coincidence


I WONDER WHICH "AKIRA-CHAN" IT IS...
With either one, say the wrong thing and you're in trouble.
HUH? I THINK SOMEBODY'S AT THE DOOR.
DING DONG
IT'S ALMOST LIKE THE TWO FROM LUCKY ☆ STAR CHANNEL GOT MARRIED, HUH?
AND THE NAME OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IS AKIRA SHIRAISHI...
AHH...
ALSO A MANGA THAT ONLY GOT MORE POPULAR WHEN IT SWITCHED TO ASUKA, AI-ORE VOL. 1 WILL BE RELEASED!
OHH!
THIS MONTH, WE HAVE THE HIGHLY ANTICIPATED VOLUME FROM SHOUNEN ACE! TSUGANO-SENSEI'S THE MELANCHOLY OF HARUHI SUZUMIYA VOL. 6!
AND THE COMEDY MANGA, HARUHI-CHAN VOL. 1 WILL BE RELEASED TOO!

42 spacey


They're trying for too broad an appeal, right?
I KNOW THAT PRETTY MUCH ANYTHING GOES IN LUCKY ☆ STAR, BUT... ... GUNDAM IS GETTING SOMETHING OF AN UNPARALLELED FREEDOM HERE, DON'T YOU THINK?
WELL, THEY'RE ON A SCALE AND LONGEVITY SUCH THAT WE DON'T EVEN COMPARE.
In popularity too.
WAI-WAI-WAIT! EH?!
Imouto? "Little sister"?
PLUS THAT EXHILARATING GAG MANGA, IMOUTO GUNDAM VOL. 2 IS COMING OUT!
...AND GUN-OTA NO ONNA VOL. 2 WILL BOTH MAKE EARLY RELEASES!!
BUT MORE THAN JUST THAT, ECOLE DU CIEL VOL. 11...
THIS MONTH, AS YOU KNOW, MOBILE SUIT GUNDAM THE ORIGIN VOL. 17 IS COMING OUT!
THIS MONTH AND NEXT IS FILLED WITH GUNDAM! THE 2-MONTH UCHUU SEIKI CAMPAIGN IS ABOUT TO START!
YAAY


WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY. MAKE THEM WAIT AND THEY'LL BUY...
COMPARED TO HOW LONG KERO-KERO FANS WAIT, THE SPEED IN WHICH OUR VOLUME COME OUT...
NO, IT'S MAKE THEM WAIT, AND THEY'LL STOP BUYING!
DIDN'T WE JUST TELL EVERYBODY ABOUT THE LAST VOLUME A LITTLE WHILE BACK? THAT WAS FAST!
I'm happy about it, but.
AND THAT WILL COME OUT ON THE VERY SAME DAY AS VOLUME 17 THAT EVERYONE'S BEEN WAITING FOR!
...THE PUBLICATION OF THE PERIODICAL, KERO-KERO ACE!!
AND THAT LEADS US TO THE MOST ANTICIPATED TITLE OF THE MONTH...
JUST TO SAY THIS AGAIN, IT'S AN INCREDIBLE TITLE!
THIS MONTH WE'RE FILLED WITH KERORO AGAIN!


With all these works.
WITH SOME TITLES, IF THEY DON'T BE CAREFUL, SOME OF THE SPIN OFFS WILL OVERTAKE THE ORIGINAL WORK.
In popularity and position.
I DON'T KNOW... I DON'T THINK THAT I CAN EVEN LAUGH AT THAT...
HA HA HA
I AGREE! BUT THERE'S SO MANY, IT'S HARD KEEPING UP WITH THEM ALL!
WELL, RECENTLY THERE'S BEEN A HUGE BUNCH OF SPIN-OFF TITLES, AND IT'S PRETTY COOL.
PLUS VOLUME 5 OF CODE GEASS, HANGYAKU NO LELOUCH BEING SERIALIZED IN ASUKA!
AND FROM NEW TYPE, "LELOUCH" AND "ZERO" FROM "CHARACTERS WITH"! THERE'S ALSO CHIBI GEASS VOL. 4!
THIS MONTH, CODE GEASS GOES ON THE OFFENSIVE!!
THE ANIME IS FINALLY COMING TO A CLIMAX!!

THE VERY YOUNG-LOOKING VERSIONS OF OURSELVES FROM NUMBER 45 CAN BE FOUND PRINTED IN VOLUME 7! [VOL. 7, P. 147]

And that's the reason for our school uniforms.

No. 43 charm point

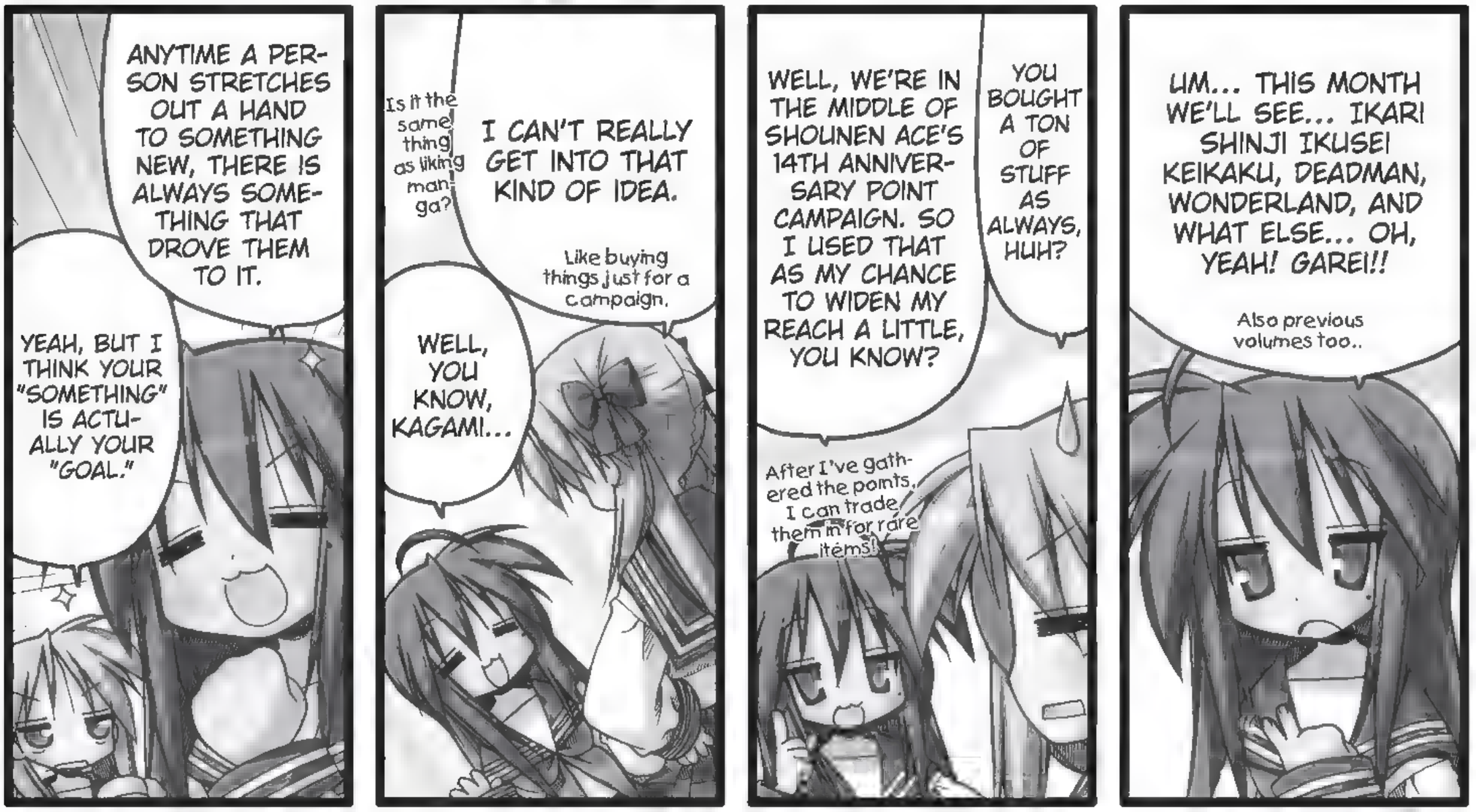
Introducing the new magazine, Kero-Kero Ace and Keroro Gunsou No. 17 (2008, July issue)

No. 44 the powerful underlings

Introducing Code Geass products starting with Code Geass: Hangyaku no Lelouch (2008, August issue)

No. 46 goals and methods

Introducing the works that are connected with 14th Anniversary of Shounen Ace Point Campaign (2008, October issue)


ANYTIME A PERSON STRETCHES OUT A HAND TO SOMETHING NEW, THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING THAT DROVE THEM TO IT.
YEAH, BUT I THINK YOUR "SOMETHING" IS ACTUALLY YOUR "GOAL."
Is it the same thing as liking manga?
I CAN'T REALLY GET INTO THAT KIND OF IDEA.
Like buying things just for a campaign.
WELL, YOU KNOW, KAGAMI...
WELL, WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF SHOUNEN ACE'S 14TH ANNIVERSARY POINT CAMPAIGN. SO I USED THAT AS MY CHANCE TO WIDEN MY REACH A LITTLE, YOU KNOW?
YOU BOUGHT A TON OF STUFF AS ALWAYS, HUH?
After I've gathered the points, I can trade them in for rare items!
UM... THIS MONTH WE'LL SEE... IKARI SHINJI IKUSEI KEIKAKU, DEADMAN, WONDERLAND, AND WHAT ELSE... OH, YEAH! GAREI!!
Also previous volumes too..

goals and methods

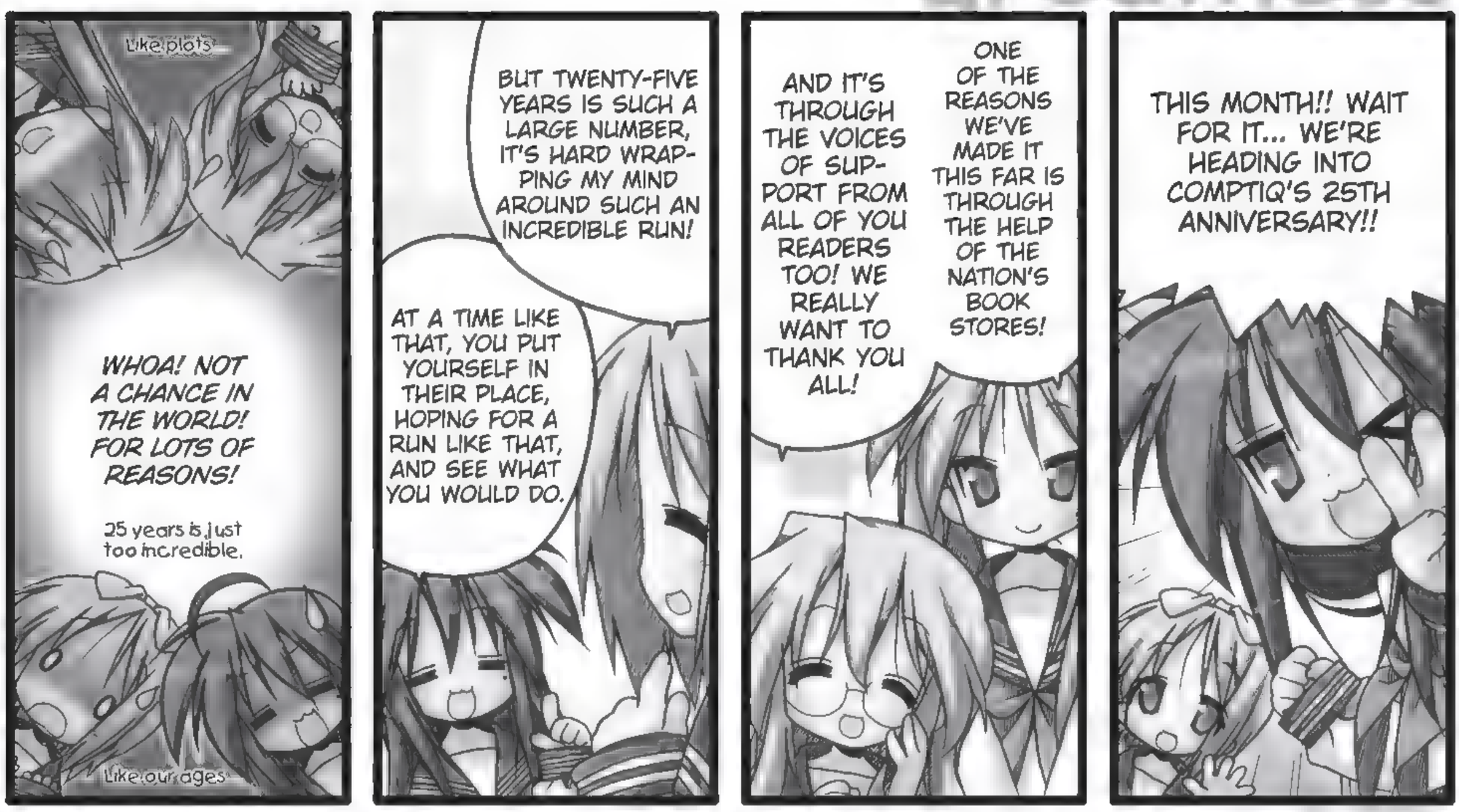
No. 47 a well-known greatness

Information on Comptiq's 25th Anniversary. (2008, November issue)

No. 48 the continuing dream

Introducing Haruhi products starting with the Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya Vol. 7 and information on the animated versions of The Melancholy of Haruhi-chan Suzumiya and Nyoron Churuya-san. (2008, December issue)

a well-known greatness


Like plots
WHOA! NOT A CHANCE IN THE WORLD! FOR LOTS OF REASONS!
25 years is just too incredible.
Like our ages
BUT TWENTY-FIVE YEARS IS SUCH A LARGE NUMBER, IT'S HARD WRAPPING MY MIND AROUND SUCH AN INCREDIBLE RUN!
AT A TIME LIKE THAT, YOU PUT YOURSELF IN THEIR PLACE, HOPING FOR A RUN LIKE THAT, AND SEE WHAT YOU WOULD DO.
AND IT'S THROUGH THE VOICES OF SUPPORT FROM ALL OF YOU READERS TOO! WE REALLY WANT TO THANK YOU ALL!
ONE OF THE REASONS WE'VE MADE IT THIS FAR IS THROUGH THE HELP OF THE NATION'S BOOK STORES!
THIS MONTH!! WAIT FOR IT... WE'RE HEADING INTO COMPTIQ'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY!!

the continuing dream

TH... THAT'S TRUE, HUH?
WELL, I AM GLAD THAT I CAN SEE HARUHI WHEREVER I GO, BUT WITH ALL THIS OUT THERE, IT MUST BE HARD TO CATCH UP.
Not a bad thing since it's so fun, but..
Do we have the right to say that?
Recently things had calmed down, though...
AND THE JUST-ANNOUNCED ANIMATED VERSION OF HARUHI-CHAN AND CHURUYA-SAN ARE MUST-SEES!!
You're right.
SEMPAI, DON'T FORGET THAT NYORYON CHURUYA-SAN THAT'S BEING SERIALIZED IN COMP ACE IS ALSO COMING OUT!
Oh, Hiyorin!
OHH! TSUGANO-SENSEI'S THE MELANCHOLY OF HARUHI SUZUMIYA VOL. 7 AND THE MELANCHOLY OF HARUHI-CHAN VOL. 2 ARE COMING OUT MAKING THIS A HARUHI-FILLED MONTH!
Makes me so happy!

TA-DA!

HUH...? YOU KNOW, THAT JUST... MIGHT... WORK...?

Everybody looks so young..

I THINK IT'D BE COOL IF WE WERE JUST LIKE THEM AND WENT ON FOR A LONG TIME!

HM... BUT IF WE GO AS LONG AS THEY DO, WE'RE GOING TO BE GOING ON UNTIL WE'RE OUR PARENTS' AGE.

The readers too...

WE OPEN THE CURTAIN ON ITS THIRTY-YEAR ANNIVERSARY BREAKING OUT A NEW PUBLICATION WITH A NEW LINEUP CENTERING AROUND ITS COMEDY MANGA!

I WAS SURPRISED AT COMPTIQ'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY, BUT 30 IS JUST AMAZING!

Viva Gundam!

There's so much Gundam!

THE VERY FIRST THING OUT THIS YEAR IS EXACTLY WHAT YOU'D HOPE FOR! GUNDAM!

HAPPY NEW YEAR'S!

Improvised Miko Shrine Maiden Costume

YEAH... 10 YEARS... AND IT'S QUALITY NEVER CHANGES ONE BIT. WONDERFUL, HUH?

I FEEL ABOUT THE SAME, BUT HEARING IT SAID, I GET THE FEELING SOMETHING'S JUST NOT RIGHT...

WELL, AS ONE OF THE ORIGINAL FANS, I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING FOR TEN YEARS. I MIGHT BE THOUGHT OF AS AN OLD MAN.

ME TOO. IT BEGAN WHEN I WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, AND NOW I'M STILL A FAN AS A COLLEGE STUDENT!

AND FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T WAIT, VOLUME 18 WILL BE ON SALE BEFORE THE MOVIE COMES OUT! HOW ABOUT BEING THE FIRST TO PICK IT UP?!

KEEP YOUR EYE OUT FOR THE THEATRICAL VERSION! THE NATION-WIDE RELEASE IS COMING SOON!

AND TO CELEBRATE ITS TENTH YEAR, WE'RE GOING TO POWER IT UP ALL THIS YEAR!

THANKS FOR WAITING! THIS MONTH, WHAT YOU'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR, KERORO, COMES OUT AGAIN!!

YAAAAAAAY!!

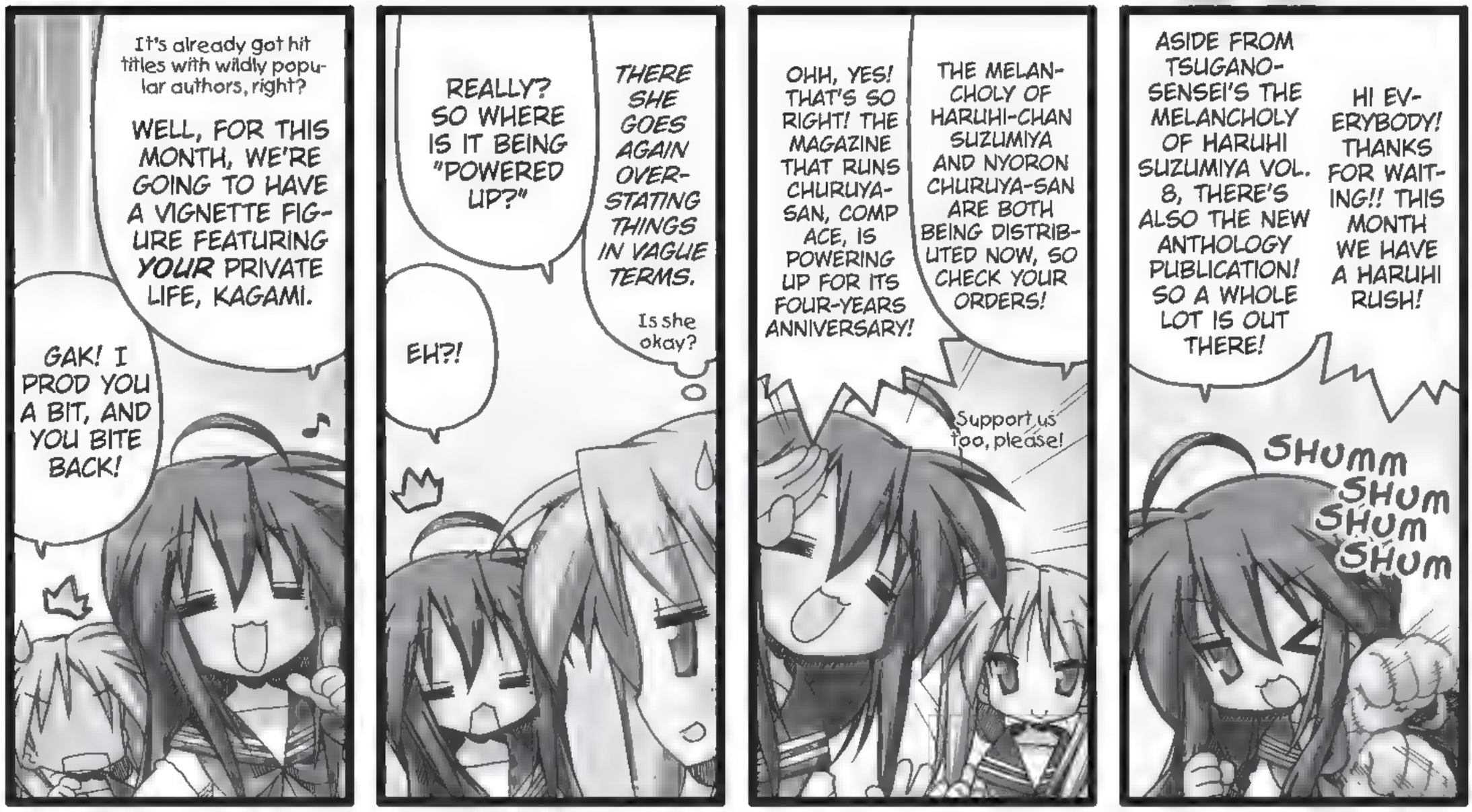
No. 49 the demand

Konata and Tsukasa give their New Year's greetings and introduce products for Gundam's 30-year anniversary. (2009, Janudry issue)

No. 50 growing up

Introducing Keroro Gunsou Vol. 18 as a part of the Keroro Gunsou 10th anniversary. (2009, February issue)

51 bad timing

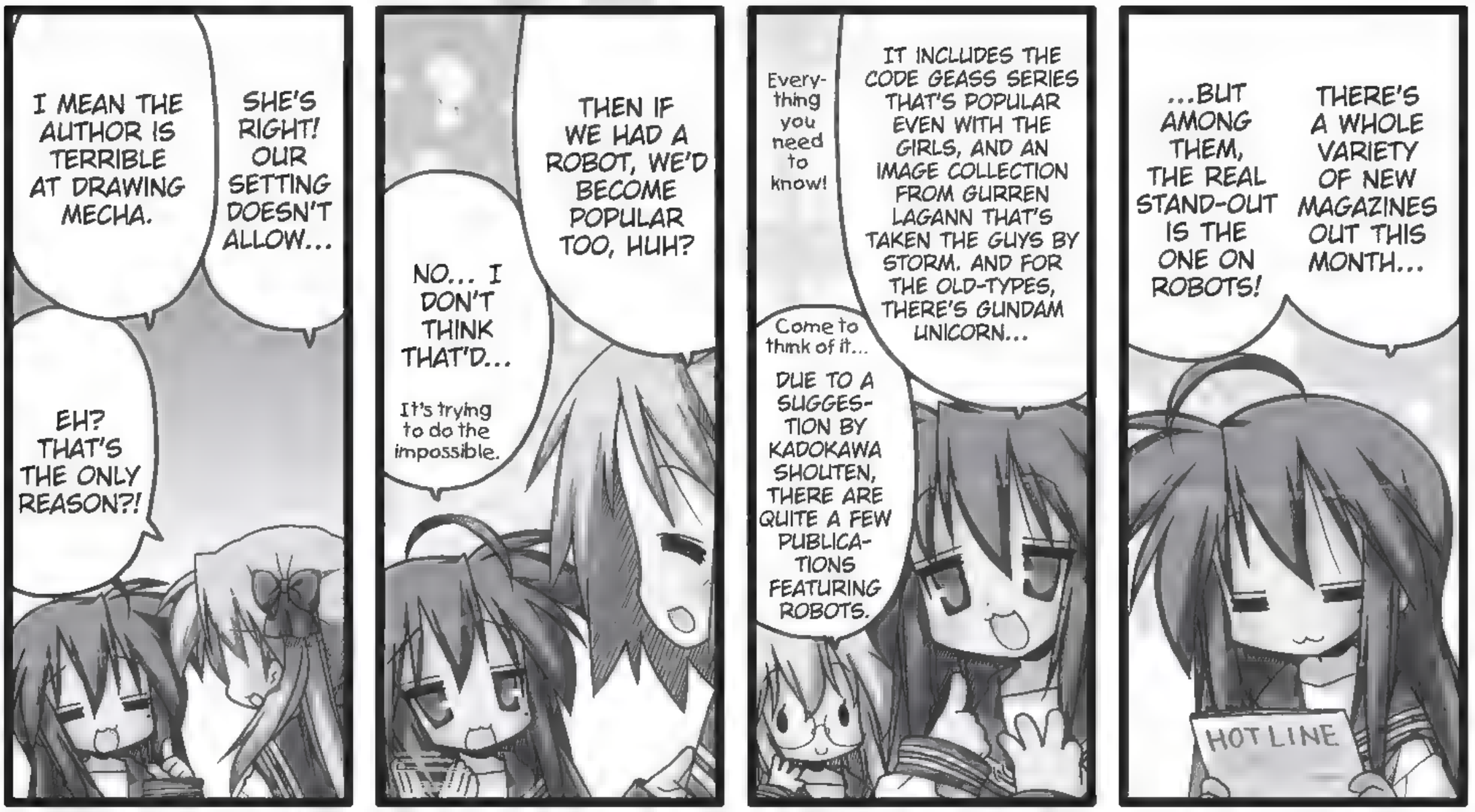

It's already got hit titles with wildly popular authors, right?
WELL, FOR THIS MONTH, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A VIGNETTE FIGURE FEATURING YOUR PRIVATE LIFE, KAGAMI.
GAK! I PROD YOU A BIT, AND YOU BITE BACK!
REALLY? SO WHERE IS IT BEING "POWERED UP?"
EH?!
THERE SHE GOES AGAIN OVERSTATING THINGS IN VAGUE TERMS.
Is she okay?
OHH, YES! THAT'S SO RIGHT! THE MAGAZINE THAT RUNS CHURUYA-SAN, COMP ACE, IS POWERING UP FOR ITS FOUR-YEARS ANNIVERSARY!
THE MELANCHOLY OF HARUHI-CHAN SUZUMIYA AND NYORON CHURUYA-SAN ARE BOTH BEING DISTRIBUTED NOW, SO CHECK YOUR ORDERS!
Support us too, please!
ASIDE FROM TSUGANO-SENSEI'S THE MELANCHOLY OF HARUHI SUZUMIYA VOL. 8, THERE'S ALSO THE NEW ANTHOLOGY PUBLICATION! SO A WHOLE LOT IS OUT THERE!
HI EVERYBODY! THANKS FOR WAITING!! THIS MONTH WE HAVE A HARUHI RUSH!
SHUMM SHUM SHUM SHUM

No. 51 bad timing

Introducing The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya Vol. 8 and The Melancholy of Haruhi-chan Suzumiya. Also information about the anime Nyoron Churuya-san. Plus a reminder that Comp Ace has a 4-year anniversary. (2009, March issue)

No. 52 respect for those who can draw

An introduction to the works of Kadokawa Robot-Mono. (2009, April issue)


I MEAN THE AUTHOR IS TERRIBLE AT DRAWING MECHA.
SHE'S RIGHT! OUR SETTING DOESN'T ALLOW...
EH? THAT'S THE ONLY REASON?!
THEN IF WE HAD A ROBOT, WE'D BECOME POPULAR TOO, HUH?
NO... I DON'T THINK THAT'D...
It's trying to do the impossible.
Every-thing you need to know!
IT INCLUDES THE CODE GEASS SERIES THAT'S POPULAR EVEN WITH THE GIRLS, AND AN IMAGE COLLECTION FROM GURREN LAGANN THAT'S TAKEN THE GUYS BY STORM. AND FOR THE OLD-TYPES, THERE'S GUNDAM UNICORN...
Come to think of it...
DUE TO A SUGGES-TION BY KADOKAWA SHOUTEN, THERE ARE QUITE A FEW PUBLICA-TIONS FEATURING ROBOTS.
...BUT AMONG THEM, THE REAL STAND-OUT IS THE ONE ON ROBOTS!
THERE'S A WHOLE VARIETY OF NEW MAGAZINES OUT THIS MONTH...
HOT LINE

respect for those who can draw

No. 53 density

Letting people know that the Spring "Tales" Fair is going on. (2009, May issue)

No. 54 sensei appreciation

Introducing Boku Otariiman Vol. 4, and letting people know about Ota Star Fair. (2009, June issue) *The second panel was drawn by Yoshitani-sensei.

53 density

WHOOOA! TH-THAT'S RIGHT, HUH? BUT WHAT'S WITH THE SUDDEN ENTHUSI-ASM?

I just got here, okay?

What's that look for?

NEE-SAN... WE HAVE TO GO OUT AND WORK IT TOO!

We need to work to make our series even a little bit better!

I just got here, okay?

WITH A FAMOUS SERIES LIKE THIS, EVEN IF IT ADDS MORE CHARACTERS, IT DOESN'T LESSEN THE INDIVIDUAL-ITY OR IMPACT OF THE SERIES OVERALL!

It's "presence" is as strong as ever!

SUP! I'M HERE TO VISIT! I BOUGHT YOU THE BOOKS YOU ASKED FOR!

Amazing!!

THERE'RE MANGA AND NOVELS, ANIME AND MAGAZINES ABOUT A SERIES THAT, IT IS NO EXAGGERATION TO SAY, IS THE ***GUNDAM OF GAMES!*** AND IT'S GAINING MORE AND MORE STEAM!

Lots of stuff, huh?

THE SPRING "TALES" FAIR IS GOING ON NOW!

54 sensei appreciation

...THIS IS ***YOUR*** OP-PORTUNITY, SO HOW ABOUT GIV-ING LUCKY STAR A CHANCE TOO?!

CAN'T YOU PUSH OUR BOOK EVEN A LITTLE?!

It isn't just for otaku, so please give us a try!

I MEAN, I CAN'T REALLY DENY IT.

It isn't a wrong impression

AND IN THE SAME WAY, FOR THOSE WHO ARE MISSING THIS BOAT AND THOSE WHO ARE GIVING THESE PICTURES HERE A WIDE BERTH...

...THIS IS YOUR CHANCE, SO DON'T MISS THE TITLE THAT'S MORE FUN THE MORE THIS KIND OF NOR-MAL SCENE APPEALS TO YOU!

TO YOU WHO, THROUGH BAD TIMING, MISSED THE BOAT, OR FOR YOU WHO GAVE THE TITLE A WIDE BERTH BECAUSE OF THE NAME...

Ah! No... I'm listening. Go on.

I'm bor-ing you, aren't I?

Sorry....

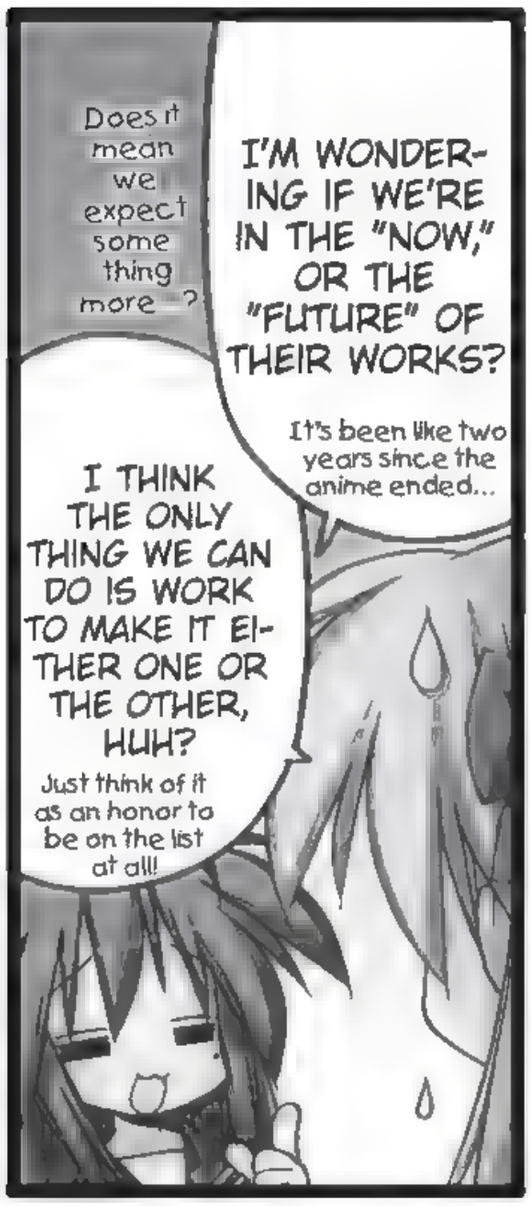
DRINK-ING MEET-ING

Chop-stick wrap-per

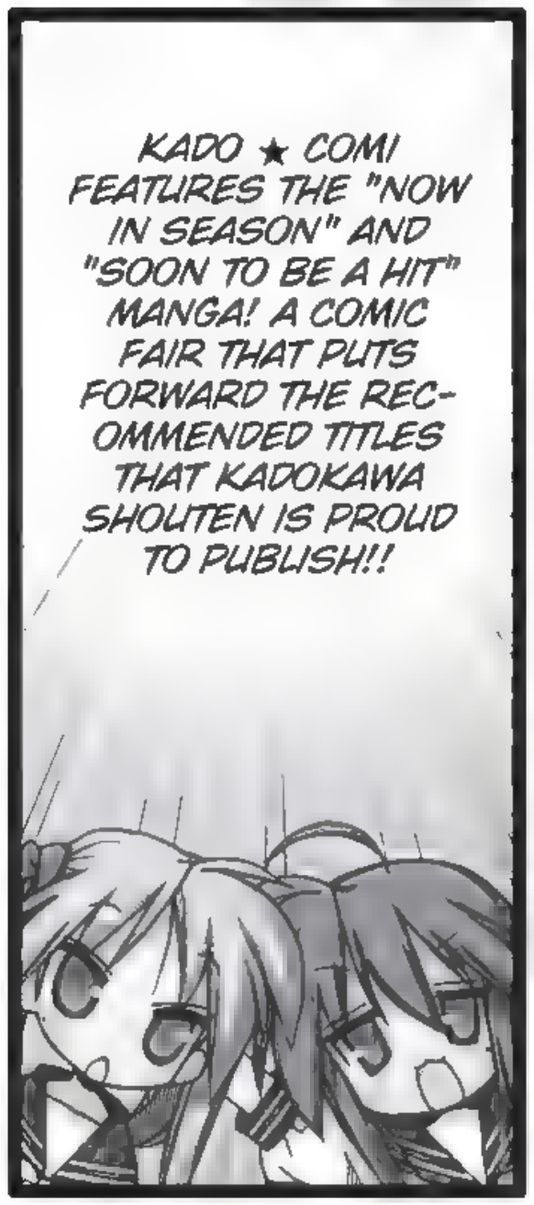
AND A PART OF IT IS THE EVENT GOING ON NOW, OTA STAR FAIR!

YOU KNOW IT!! THAT THE CONVERSA-TION THESE DAYS HAS BEEN DOMI-NATED BY THE PREPARA-TIONS FOR THE ARRIVAL OF BOKU OTRIIMAN VOL. 4!!

55 lavish


Does it mean we expect some thing more...?
I'M WONDERING IF WE'RE IN THE "NOW," OR THE "FUTURE" OF THEIR WORKS?
It's been like two years since the anime ended...
I THINK THE ONLY THING WE CAN DO IS WORK TO MAKE IT EITHER ONE OR THE OTHER, HUH?
Just think of it as an honor to be on the list at all!

TRUE, HUH? BUT THERE'S ONE I'M WONDERING ABOUT.
I'M JUST IMPRESSED ABOUT THE NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVE TITLES.
Since they have so many high profile works.


KADO ★ COMI FEATURES THE "NOW IN SEASON" AND "SOON TO BE A HIT" MANGA! A COMIC FAIR THAT PUTS FORWARD THE RECOMMENDED TITLES THAT KADOKAWA SHOUTEN IS PROUD TO PUBLISH!!

56

BUT I'M JEALOUS ABOUT THAT, HUH? DAY AFTER DAY COMPLETELY UNCHANGING IN A LOOP WORLD...
IF ANYBODY HEARS US SAY THAT, IT'LL START WEIRD MISUNDERSTANDING AND HOPES OUT THERE! YOU CAN'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT!
But I'm kind of against the same thing happening millions of time again and again.

YOU'RE RIGHT! WITH ANIMATION BY KYOTO ANIMATION, IT'S A PRODUCTION OF FEARFUL PROPORTIONS!
AND ON TV, THE ENDLESS EIGHT HAS DONE SOMETHING INCREDIBLE!
The same story but I never get sick of it!

YES, THE HARUHI EFFECT GOES ON FOREVER! IT TRULY IS ENDLESS!
AND TO GO WITH IT, THERE ARE THREE BRAND NEW VOLUMES OF HARUHI COMICS!

the same different days over and over

No. 55 lavish

Letting people know that Summer's Kado ★ Comi is going on. (2009, July issue)

No. 56 the same different days over and over

Letting people know that Endless Haruhi Fair is underway. (2009, August issue)

AND FOR THE MAIN CHARACTER, TOMOKI-KUN WHO JUST WANTS PEACE AND QUIET, THIS IS A TERRIBLE REVERSAL ON HIS DREAM.
ABSOLUTELY! IT LOOKS LIKE HIS DAILY LIFE WILL LACK OF ANY PEACE INSIDE A BREAKING HIT SERIES.
ALSO THIS MONTH, THE LATEST VOLUME, NO. 6, WILL GO ON SALE! BE SURE TO CHECK IT OUT!
PLUS IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT AS OF NOVEMBER, IT WILL START ON TV!!
DAN-DA DAAAAAAN!
THIS IS PUTTING THAT THOUGHT INTO WORDS.
JUST KIDDING! BUT ISN'T THAT WHAT EVERY HEALTHY GUY WISHES AT LEAST ONCE IN HIS LIFE?
AND THAT'S JUST WHAT "HEAVEN'S LOST PROPERTY" IS!!
IT SHOULD BE JUST A BIT EROTIC WITH JUST A DASH OF HEART.
AHHH...
JEEEEN
YOU KNOW... I KIND OF WONDER IF A CUTE GIRL WILL FALL OUT OF THE SKY?

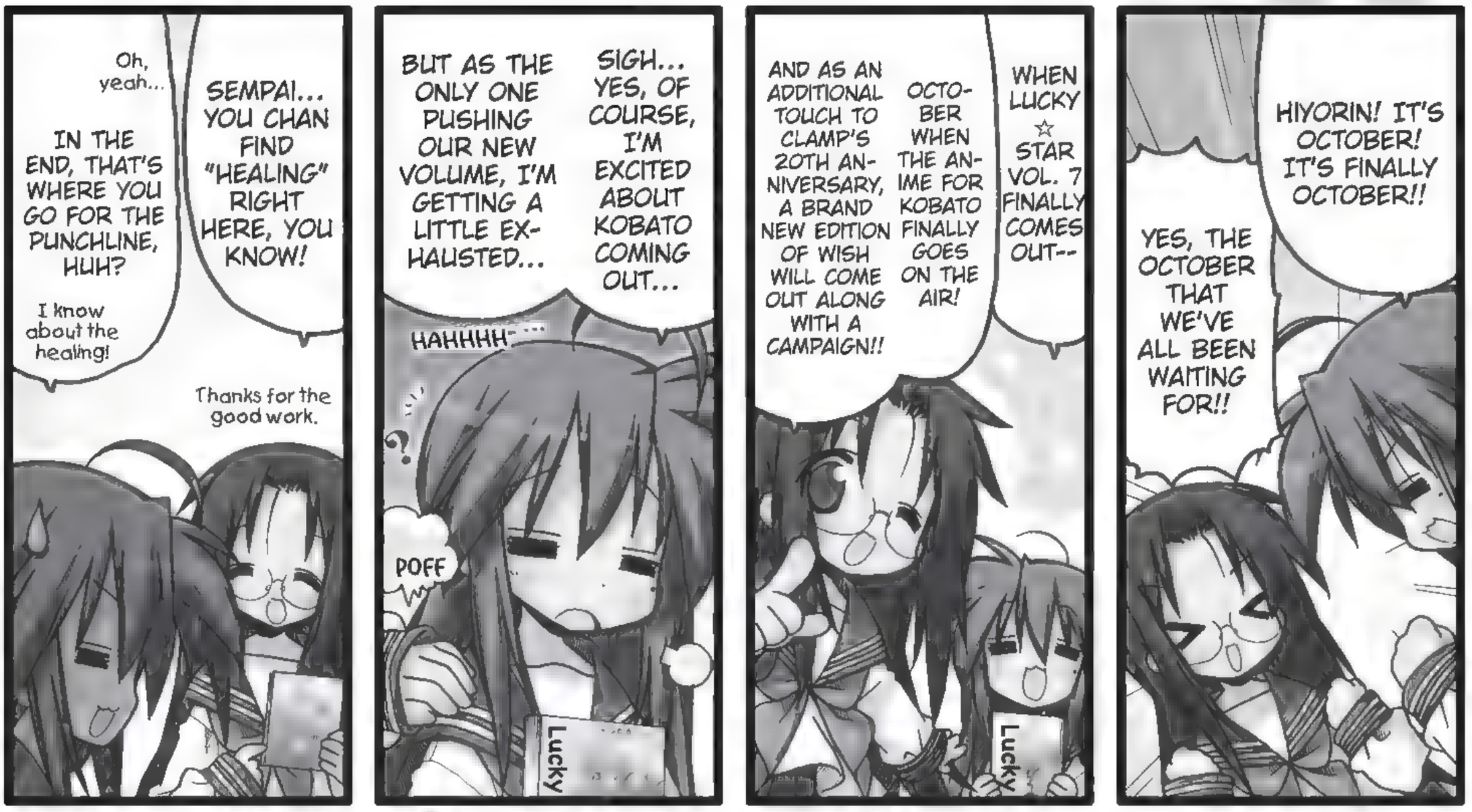
No. 57 those who spread their wings

Informing people that Heaven's Lost Property will be animated and introducing Heaven's Lost Property Vol. 6. (2009, September issue)

those who spread their wings

No. 58 various factors

A report on CLAMP's 20th anniversary and an introduction to Lucky ☆ Star Vol. 7. (2009, October issue)


Oh, yeah...
IN THE END, THAT'S WHERE YOU GO FOR THE PUNCHLINE, HUH?
I know about the healing!
SEMPAI... YOU CHAN FIND "HEALING" RIGHT HERE, YOU KNOW!
Thanks for the good work.
BUT AS THE ONLY ONE PUSHING OUR NEW VOLUME, I'M GETTING A LITTLE EXHAUSTED...
SIGH... YES, OF COURSE, I'M EXCITED ABOUT KOBATO COMING OUT...
HAHHHH~...
?
POFF
Lucky
AND AS AN ADDITIONAL TOUCH TO CLAMP'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY, A BRAND NEW EDITION OF WISH WILL COME OUT ALONG WITH A CAMPAIGN!!
OCTOBER WHEN THE ANIME FOR KOBATO FINALLY GOES ON THE AIR!
WHEN LUCKY ☆ STAR VOL. 7 FINALLY COMES OUT--
Lucky
HIYORIN! IT'S OCTOBER! IT'S FINALLY OCTOBER!!
YES, THE OCTOBER THAT WE'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR!!

various factors

No. 59 an anticipation song

Introducing Macross Frontier the Movie: The False Songstress and its related products. (2009, November issue)

No. 60 television shopping

An introduction to Fate/Stay Night: Unlimited Blade Works and its related products. (2009, December issue)

59 an anticipation song

YES, WE DID A GOOD JOB FOR OUR PART. BUT I'M SORRY THERE IS SO MUCH TO CRITICIZE ABOUT LUCKY STAR'S SCRIPTS!!

THIS MONTH, IN THE MOVIES AND MANGA, "PLEASE LISTEN TO MY SONG"!! UM, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS LINE...

Hey, you did good in that March event.

Hot Line Script

THIS MONTH, YOU SHOULD JOIN IN THE MACROSS FRENZY!

THEY'RE ALSO RELEASING A FULL SLATE OF PRODUCTS FROM THE LINEUP OF OTHER MACROSS SERIES!

AND TO GO ALONG WITH IT, THIS MONTH THERE WILL BE RELEASES OF A LARGE COLLECTION OF MACROSS F PUBLICATIONS!!

IT WAS THE TALK OF ALL OF 2008, AND WITH ITS ENDURING POPULARITY, MACROSS F! THE MOVIE VERSION WILL GO NATION-WIDE IN NOVEMBER!

60 television shopping

TO SEE YOU TWO, YOU WONDER IF IT IS REALLY THAT GOOD OR IF YOU GUYS JUST LIKE ADVERTISING STUFF...

NO, IT REALLY IS THAT GOOD!!

IT'S A WHOLE LOT QUICKER JUST TO SHOW HER, RIGHT?! I MEAN THIS MONTH, THERE'S PUBLICATION AFTER PUBLICATION OF "FATE" COMING OUT, YOU KNOW!!

Oh! Nice timing!

FUN? WELL, OF COURSE IT IS! BUT IT ISN'T JUST THAT. IT SORT OF GETS TO YOUR HEART... I DON'T KNOW HOW TO QUITE PUT IT INTO WORDS ...

Oh, that thing you were going on and on about?

THAT SERIES HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR A LONG TIME, HUH? IS IT REALLY THAT FUN?

SEMPAI! SEMPAI!!

TPTPTP

WELL, THE MOVIE I'VE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO, FATE/STAY NIGHT: UNLIMITED BLADE WORKS IS GOING INTO THE THEATERS ON JANUARY 23RD! THAT'S PRETTY SOON!

WELL, YOU LOOK TO BE IN A GOOD MOOD, HUH?

Did something good happen to you?

TEE HEE

COMP

WHAA?! NO!! NOT AT ALL!! IT'S ONLY AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT *OTHER* PEOPLE WOULD LIKE TO SEE!!
IT LOOKS LIKE THE FIRST AND SECOND PANELS OF THIS STRIP TAKE PLACE IN A WORLD WHERE WAKASE-SAN *WANTS* TO LIVE IN, HUH?
Also, you're not supposed to talk about things that strike too close to the mark!
A change of policy?
HeHn!
IT'S GOING INTO THEATERS ON FEBRUARY 6TH FINALLY! BY THE WAY...
AND WITH THAT WE GET THE DISAPPEARANCE OF HARUHI SUZUMIYA LEADING THE HARUHI SERIES!
This is the first time I've ever seen you so alive, Madam Student-Body President!
I'M FOND OF NAGATO, SO I'M HAPPY ABOUT IT.
DMP
KOBACHI! THAT'S REALLY DEEP!
AND I'M HAPPY THAT KADOKAWA SHOUTEN IS GOING ALL OUT THIS MONTH!
IZUMI! THE "DISAPPEARANCE" MOVIE WILL BE IN THEATERS SOON, HUH?
I'm looking forward to it!

RIGHT FROM THE START OF THIS YEAR, WE GET REQUESTS FROM THE FANS FOR A QUICKER RELEASE SCHEDULE FOR OUR BOOKS. REQUESTS LIKE, "CAN YOU EVEN GET A VOLUME OUT IN 2010...?" I'M A LITTLE WORRIED MYSELF.
THAT'S RIGHT, HUH? IF ONLY EVERYBODY COULD BE AS CONSISTENT EVERY YEAR.
TH-THIS YEAR, WE'LL REALLY WORK HARD ON IT, OKAY...? SO PLEASE STAY PATIENT...
SIIGH ——...
IT'S TRUE! IT'S TRUE! WITH PLOT TWISTS COMING AT A CONSTANT PACE, ONE SHOULD BE VERY HAPPY AS A FAN!
WITH A MOVIE AND THE LATEST BOOK, IT LOOKS LIKE THIS YEAR, IT'S AT FULL POWER AGAIN. A START WITH SOME VERY GOOD OMENS.
SO PLEASED
AND THE DAY BEFORE THAT, THE LATEST VOLUME, 20, COMES OUT ON THE SHELVES! EVERYBODY, WE'RE HOPING FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
STARTING ON THE 27TH, THE FIFTH INSTALLMENT FINALLY HITS THE THEATERS!
THIS MONTH'S SPECIALTY REALLY NEEDS NO INTRODUCTION! YOU ALL ALREADY KNOW ABOUT THE NATIONWIDE POPULARITY OF KERORO GUNSOU!

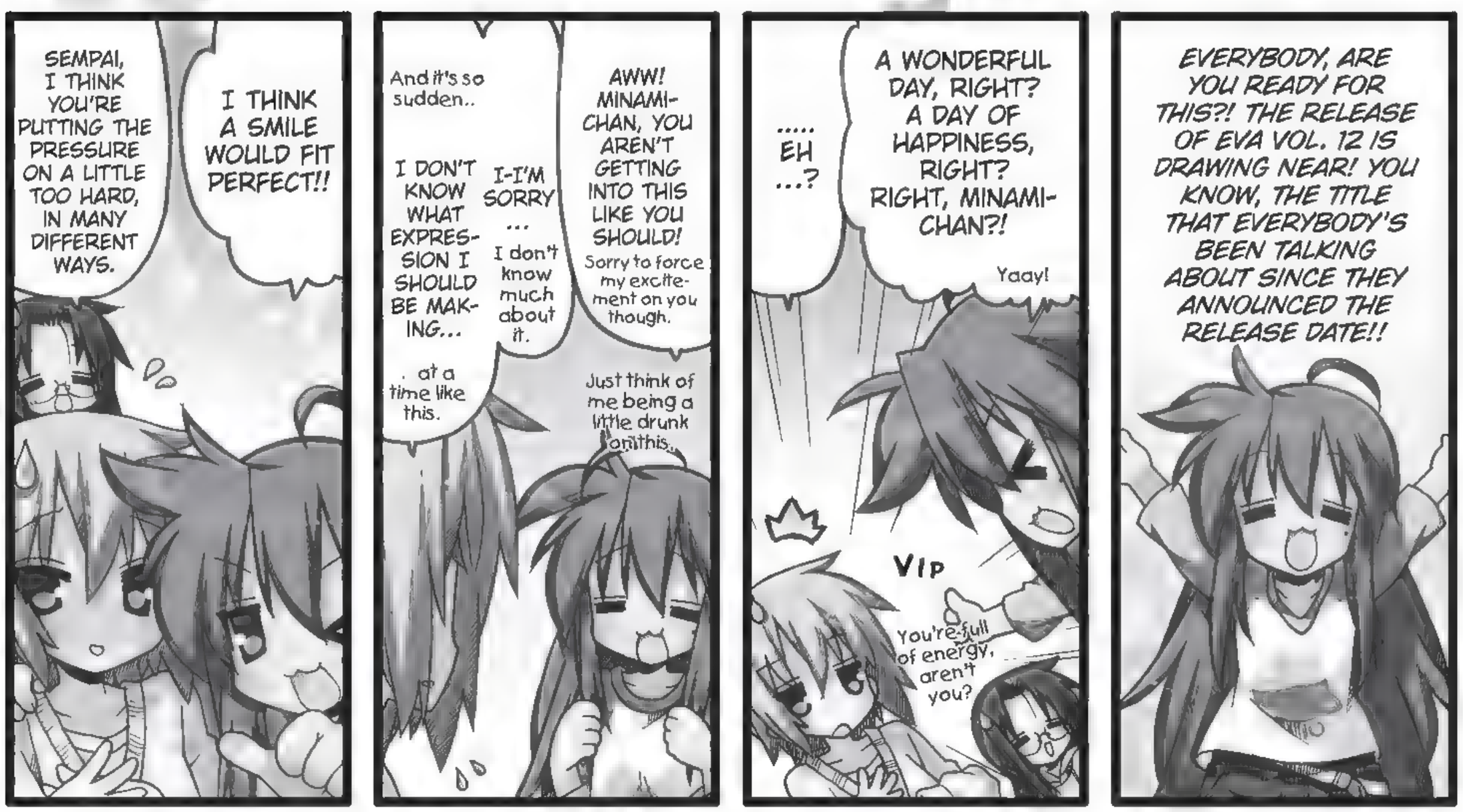
No. 61 nagato moe

Introducing the movie, The Disappearance of Haruhi Suzumiya and related products. (2010, January issue)

No. 62 the difficulties of being regular

Introducing the movie, Keroro Gunsou: Birth of the Ultimate Keroro: There Is a Miraculous Space-Time Island!! and related products. (2010, February issue)

63 guidance


SEMPAI, I THINK YOU'RE PUTTING THE PRESSURE ON A LITTLE TOO HARD, IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS.
I THINK A SMILE WOULD FIT PERFECT!!
And it's so sudden..
I DON'T KNOW WHAT EXPRESSION I SHOULD BE MAKING...
I-I'M SORRY ...
I don't know much about it.
. at a time like this.
AWW! MINAMI-CHAN, YOU AREN'T GETTING INTO THIS LIKE YOU SHOULD!
Sorry to force my excitement on you though.
Just think of me being a little drunk on this.
..... EH ...?
A WONDERFUL DAY, RIGHT? A DAY OF HAPPINESS, RIGHT? RIGHT, MINAMI-CHAN?!
Yaay!
VIP
You're full of energy, aren't you?
EVERYBODY, ARE YOU READY FOR THIS?! THE RELEASE OF EVA VOL. 12 IS DRAWING NEAR! YOU KNOW, THE TITLE THAT EVERYBODY'S BEEN TALKING ABOUT SINCE THEY ANNOUNCED THE RELEASE DATE!!

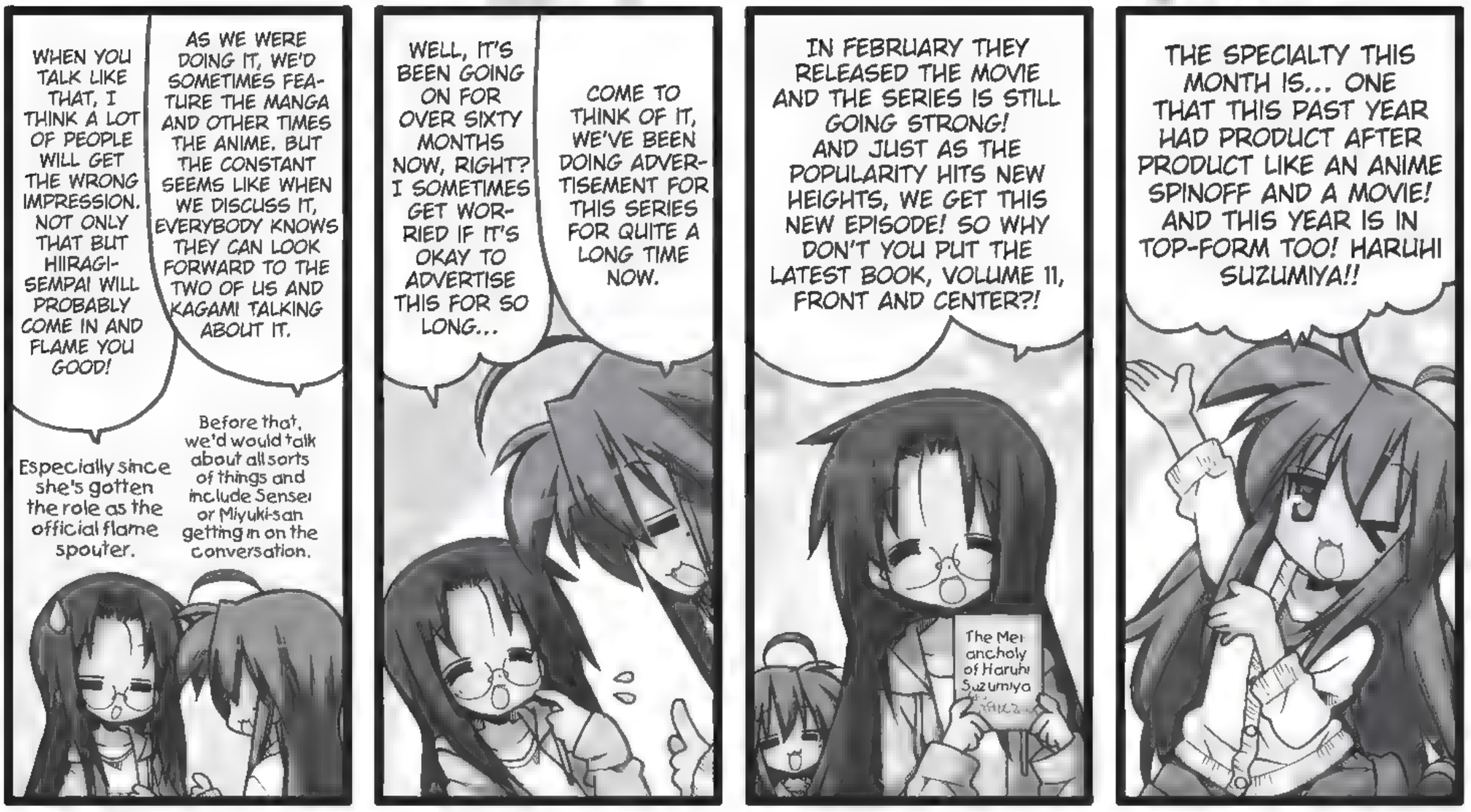
No. 63 guidance

Introduction of Neon Genesis Evangelion Vol. 12. (2010, March issue)

No. 64 roles

Introducing The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya Vol. 11 (2010, April issue)

64 roles


WHEN YOU TALK LIKE THAT, I THINK A LOT OF PEOPLE WILL GET THE WRONG IMPRESSION. NOT ONLY THAT BUT HIIRAGI-SEMPAI WILL PROBABLY COME IN AND FLAME YOU GOOD!
AS WE WERE DOING IT, WE'D SOMETIMES FEATURE THE MANGA AND OTHER TIMES THE ANIME. BUT THE CONSTANT SEEMS LIKE WHEN WE DISCUSS IT, EVERYBODY KNOWS THEY CAN LOOK FORWARD TO THE TWO OF US AND KAGAMI TALKING ABOUT IT.
Especially since she's gotten the role as the official flame spouter.
Before that, we'd would talk about all sorts of things and include Sensei or Miyuki-san getting in on the conversation.
WELL, IT'S BEEN GOING ON FOR OVER SIXTY MONTHS NOW, RIGHT? I SOMETIMES GET WORRIED IF IT'S OKAY TO ADVERTISE THIS FOR SO LONG...
COME TO THINK OF IT, WE'VE BEEN DOING ADVERTISEMENT FOR THIS SERIES FOR QUITE A LONG TIME NOW.
IN FEBRUARY THEY RELEASED THE MOVIE AND THE SERIES IS STILL GOING STRONG! AND JUST AS THE POPULARITY HITS NEW HEIGHTS, WE GET THIS NEW EPISODE! SO WHY DON'T YOU PUT THE LATEST BOOK, VOLUME 11, FRONT AND CENTER?!
The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya
THE SPECIALTY THIS MONTH IS... ONE THAT THIS PAST YEAR HAD PRODUCT AFTER PRODUCT LIKE AN ANIME SPINOFF AND A MOVIE! AND THIS YEAR IS IN TOP-FORM TOO! HARUHI SUZUMIYA!!

No. 65 threshold

Introducing the Blu-ray and DVD release of Rebuild of Evangelion 2.0 You Can (Not) Advance and related publications. (2010, May issue)

No. 66 the first wall

An introduction to Summer Wars Vol. 3 and Anthology. (2010, June issue)

65 threshold

IT DOES IF IT HAS A TRULY GREAT CREATOR AND STORY BEHIND IT.

Not for a series that just goes on and on.

A SERIES THAT'S ONLY THREE YEARS AFTER THE ANIME STILL HAS ITS WHOLE LIFE AHEAD OF IT!

THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT! A POPULARITY THAT ENDURES 14 YEARS AFTER THE ORIGINAL ANIME ENDED!

If we want that, I think we have to work a lot harder than this!

YEAH, IT'S BEEN 14 YEARS SINCE THE TV ANIME ENDED, HUH?

The magazines and companies making products!

IT'S REALLY AMAZING FOR ONE STORY TO BE SO BELOVED FOR SO LONG!

WE INTRODUCED A BUNCH OF THIS KIND OF STUFF JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO! THEY'RE REALLY CRANKING IT OUT, HUH?

They're also making movies.

AND THE LATEST RELEASE OF NEON GENESIS EVANGELION: SHINJI IKARI RAISING PROJECT," VOLUME 10, ALL COMING OUT ON THE VERY SAME DAY! BE SURE TO PICK THEM UP!

THERE'S ALSO A POPULAR MANGA THAT WAS SERIALIZED IN SHOUNEN ACE BASED ON THE "CAMPUS" GAME OF EVANGELION!

See the details above!

THE CENTER OF LAST YEAR'S EXCITEMENT, REBUILD OF EVANGELION 2.0: YOU CAN (NOT) ADVANCE IS FINALLY COMING OUT ON DVD AND BLU-RAY NEXT MONTH!!

T.a-DAAAAH

*In the original Hot Line printing, there was information printed above the strip.

66 the first wall

TO ALL YOU SHOP OWNERS! BE SURE TO SHELVE THE FORMER VOLUMES WITH THE NEW VOLUME FOR POPULAR SERIES! PLEASE?!

BUT WE CAN'T FIND VOLUMES ONE OR TWO ANYWHERE, SEE...?

Either that or there's a volume missing.

'SUP! AFTER YOU RECOMMENDED IT, SOME NON-OTAKU LIKE US WENT LOOKING FOR IT, BUT YOU KNOW...

OHH! IT'S YOU TWO! WELCOME! I'M TALKING ABOUT SUMMER WARS RIGHT NOW.

The movie was really great!

It's hot!!

NOW THE COMICS, THE THIRD-AND-FINAL VOLUME PLUS THE ANTHOLOGY VOLUME ARE ABOUT TO COME OUT!!

IN THE SUMMER OF LAST YEAR, WE HAD SUMMER WARS THAT REALLY WARMED THE HEART!

PHEW... YOU KNOW A GREAT STORY IS SOMETHING YOU CAN SEE OVER AND OVER!!

67 the mighty warrior

H-HEY, LOOK! IT'S A CAMPAIGN ITEM, SO THE RETAILERS STOCK UP BIG, RIGHT?

I think..

BESIDES WHEN YOU BUY SO MANY COPIES, THE CAMPAIGN COPIES SELL OUT, AND PEOPLE WHO MIGHT HAVE BOUGHT IT WON'T BE ABLE TO ANY-MORE, RIGHT?!

Won't that person come out "joyless"?

I think it would be better if you and Tsukasa and Miyuki-san and people like that would read more manga anyway!

Besides, aren't the people who you hand these to as recommenda-tions the kind of people who'd buy it anyway?

I HAVE ARCHIVE COPIES, BUT THAT ISN'T ALL. I ALSO WANT TO HAND SOME OUT AS RECOMMEN-DATIONS TO SPREAD THE JOY!

I have some real favorites that are in the campaign!

THEIR NO GOOD TO ANYONE JUST SITTING IN PILES.

I KNOW I SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED ANYMORE, BUT I'M IM-PRESSED AT HOW MANY COPIES OF THE SAME BOOK YOU BUY!

Don't lie! It's only because of the freebies that come with them, right?

WAVE WAVE

KADOKAWA'S IMPRINTS WERE HAVING A CAMPAIGN, AND I COULDN'T HELP MY-SELF...

Called the Kado-Comi 2010 Summer!

WAIT... I THINK THERE'RE EVEN MORE BOOKS IN HERE THAN LAST TIME!

OH! WELCOME!

'SUP!

68 overflowing aura

THAT'S EXACTLY IT! BUT I GET THE VAGUE FEEL-ING THE MEAN-INGS ARE IMPOR-TANT...

If I asked the people on the web, I just know they'd come back with some-thing like, "You don't know?! And you call yourself a fan?!"

WELL, DON'T STRESS THE DETAILS!! JUST FIGURE THEY'RE SOMEHOW CUTE AND COOL WORDS, YOU KNOW?

.....

THE "LYRICAL" OF LYRICAL NANOHA AND THE "MELTY" OF MELTY BLOOD... WHAT DO THESE WORDS MEAN?

I'm embarrassed to ask, but...

..... AH! BY THE WAY, THIS IS A LITTLE EMBAR-RASSING TO BE ASKING THIS NOW, BUT...

When you were talking, I suddenly remembered.

OH, NO! HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO CARE-LESS?!

I recommend you find out the details, and go read a preview of Mahoutsukai no Yoru (Night of the Magic Users) in this month's Comptiq!

HM?

OH, HIYORIN! WELCOME! COULD EVEN YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT WE ARE PRESENTLY IN THE MIDDLE OF A TYPE MOON CAMPAIGN?!

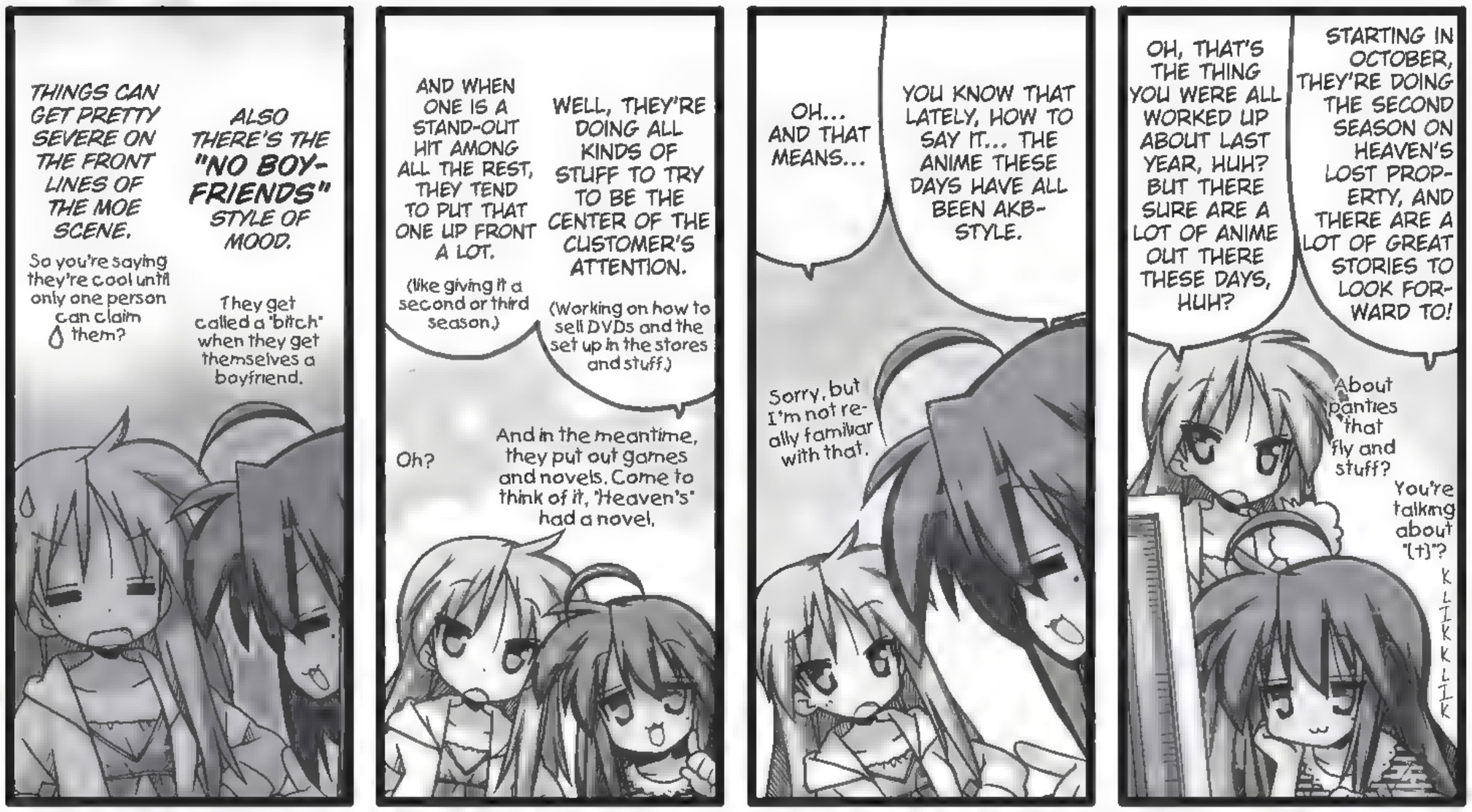
AH, SEMPAI! I'VE COME TO VISIT!! YOU BROUGHT IN A BIG HAUL TODAY, HUH?

No. 67 the mighty warrior

Information on the Kado Comi 2010 Summer. (2010, July issue)

No. 68 the difficulties of being regular

Letting People know about the Kadokawa Nanoha Festival 2nd and the Type Moon All-Around Fair. (2010, August issue)


THINGS CAN GET PRETTY SEVERE ON THE FRONT LINES OF THE MOE SCENE.
So you're saying they're cool until only one person can claim them?
ALSO THERE'S THE "NO BOY-FRIENDS" STYLE OF MOOD.
They get called a "bitch" when they get themselves a boyfriend.
AND WHEN ONE IS A STAND-OUT HIT AMONG ALL THE REST, THEY TEND TO PUT THAT ONE UP FRONT A LOT.
(like giving it a second or third season.)
WELL, THEY'RE DOING ALL KINDS OF STUFF TO TRY TO BE THE CENTER OF THE CUSTOMER'S ATTENTION.
(Working on how to sell DVDs and the set up in the stores and stuff.)
Oh?
And in the meantime, they put out games and novels. Come to think of it, "Heaven's" had a novel.
OH... AND THAT MEANS...
YOU KNOW THAT LATELY, HOW TO SAY IT... THE ANIME THESE DAYS HAVE ALL BEEN AKB-STYLE.
Sorry, but I'm not really familiar with that.
OH, THAT'S THE THING YOU WERE ALL WORKED UP ABOUT LAST YEAR, HUH? BUT THERE SURE ARE A LOT OF ANIME OUT THERE THESE DAYS, HUH?
STARTING IN OCTOBER, THEY'RE DOING THE SECOND SEASON ON HEAVEN'S LOST PROP-ERTY, AND THERE ARE A LOT OF GREAT STORIES TO LOOK FOR-WARD TO!
About panties that fly and stuff?
You're talking about "(t)"?
KLIKKLIK

No. 69 popular

Information on the second season of Heaven's Lost Property. (2010, September issue)

popular

No. 70 a gust of complaints

Introducing Chuukei Shuppan's "Learning Chemistry with Lucky ☆ Star (Theory Edition) Is So Fun, You'll Understand It All" and Lucky ☆ Star, Volume 8. (2010, October issue)

Waaaaaa
CHEMISTRY CLASS IS SO HARD! ONEE-SAN, IS THERE ANYTHING I CA DO?
EHHH?! THAT MUST BE HARD ON YOU, YU-CHAN! BUT DON'T WORRY!
OH!!
Ta-DaH
Lucky☆Star
FOR TIMES LIKE THIS, HERE'S THE ANSWER!! SINCE THE CONTENTS ARE FROM A REFERENCE BOOK PUBLISHED BY THE HIGHLY REPUTABLE CHUUKEI SHUPPAN PUBLISHING COMPANY, YOU CAN BE SURE THE INFO IS SPOT-ON!
BESIDES ALL THE ELEMENTS ARE INTRODUCED IN A WAY THAT YOU'LL LOVE, SO YOU CAN HAVE FUN LEARNING!
I LEARNED WHAT I NEEDED WITH HARDLY ANY EFFORT AND PASSED MY ENTRANCE EXAMS!!

YOUR RESULTS MAY VARY.
THERE'S A SECTION OF OUR FAN LETTERS THAT TESTIFY THAT YOU ARE MORE RECEPTIVE TO YOUR STUDIES WHEN YOU'RE RELAXED!
It's true!
Lucky☆Star
VOLUME 8
STILL, ALL STUDY AND NO PLAY CAN WIPE YOU OUT, SO BE SURE TO HAVE A VOLUME THAT CAN TURN YOUR MOOD AROUND!!
Also, didn't that book just start selling this month?
THAT'S AMAZING! ..... BUT NEE-SAN, AREN'T YOU MAJORING IN LITERATURE OR SOMETHING?
DO YOU THINK THAT SIMPLY PUTTING A BOOK COVER ON THE PAGE COUNTS AS AN ADVERTISEMENT?!
And look at all this space you could have put to good use! Don't underestimate advertising!
UM... JUST DOING THIS MONTH'S ADVERTS, AND I WANTED IT SOUND LIKE A MAGAZINE BACK COVER AD, YOU KNOW...?
It'll have the opposite effect!
And don't involve Yutaka-chan in your plots!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
SO YOU SHOULD USE THIS CHANCE TO...

a gust of complaints

SPECIAL 2

AKIRA NATION

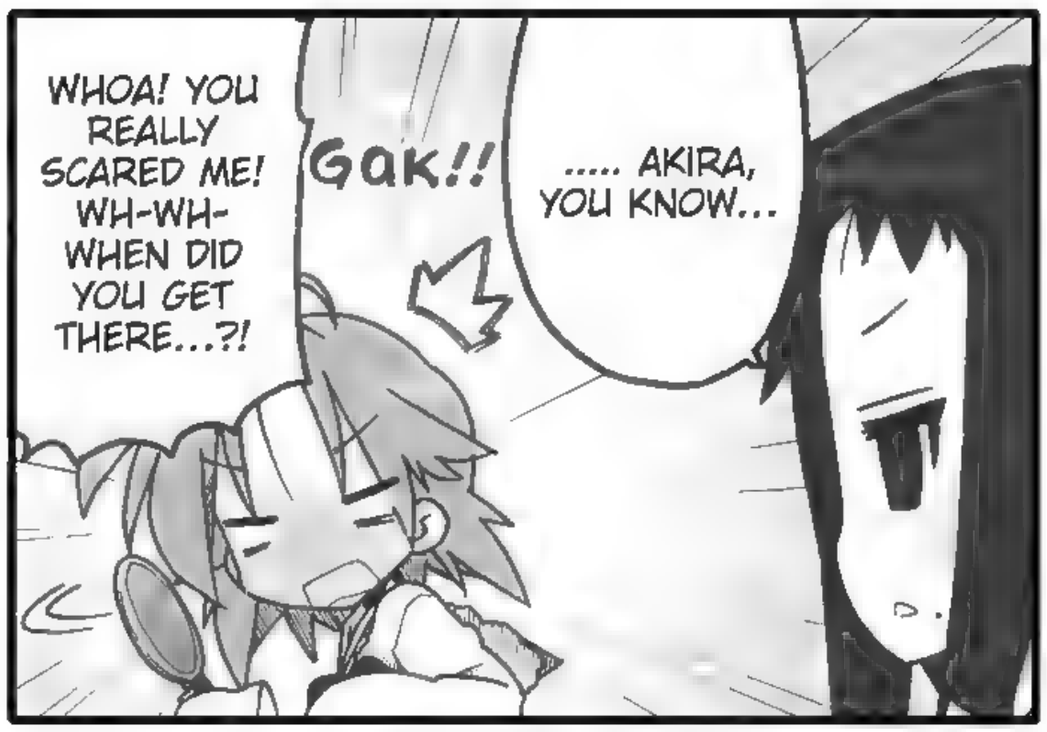
character

I'M HAPPY TO SEE AKIRA-CHAN HARD AT WORK, BUT...
AHHAHA
...IF SHE BECOMES HUGE AND TURNS INTO SOME FAR-OFF PERSON, IT'LL BE KIND OF LONELY...

WHY ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT WEIRD THINGS LIKE THAT, MAA-CHIN?
IT'LL ALL TURN OUT OKAY!
IT'S AKIRA WE'RE TALKING ABOUT. I DON'T SEE ANY REASON FOR WORRY.
It tires me just to think of it.

Y-YOU'RE RIGHT, HUH? AKIRA-CHAN WILL ALWAYS THINK OF US AS...
I MEAN THE VERY THOUGHT OF GETTING HUGE, HUH?
I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE IT.
EHHH?!
Th-That's why?!

what you see in the mirror



YOU REALLLLY DO LOVE YOURSELF, DON'T YOU?
YOU SEEM TO BE UNDER A REALLY HUGE MISUNDERSTANDING.
WHAT I WAS DOING NOW AS ACTING PRACTICE.
I keep saying that I'm not all that vain!

priceless

I DO, BUT IT'S MY LUCKY GIZA-10!
Kind of like a good-luck charm.
WAIT, KIRA-CCHI, DON'T YOU ALWAYS HAVE A 10-YEN COIN ON YOU?
OH, WOW! I'M OUTTA CASH TOO!
AH! I'M TEN YEN¥ SHORT...
CHINK
VENDING MACHINE

10 YEN = ABOUT 10¢

I don't have any change either.
SH-SHUT UP! WE'RE TALKING ABOUT FEELINGS HERE!
NO MATTER HOW MUCH "GOOD LUCK" IT MAY HAVE, CURRENCY-WISE IT'S ONLY WORTH THE AMOUNT PRINTED ON IT.
TEE HEE

I CAN HANDLE IT. SINCE IT'S FOR YOU, OOHARA, IT'S FOR A GOOD CAUSE.
No way I'd ever do it for Otonashi!
Most of the time I forget she even exists!
BOO!
D-DON'T WORRY! IF IT'S THAT IMPORTANT TO YOU...
It isn't like I won't live without this.
KUSHIIN-KLUNK

I THINK I JUST HEARD THE SOUND OF GOOD LUCK BREAKING.
BUT NOW, IT ISN'T EVEN WORTH THE PRICE PRINTED ON THE BACK.
THERE ARE MANY VENDING MACHINES THESE DAYS THAT DON'T TAKE GIZA-10 ANYMORE.

the regular route

WELL, THERE WAS SOME-THING ABOUT HOW YOUR LITTLE BROTHER ASKED MY LITTLE SISTER OR SOME-THING?
A SIGNED CD... BUT WHY?
AH! OOHARA, HERE!

IT FELT A LITTLE WEIRD, BUT I WAS SO HAPPY TO HEAR IT!
BUT YOU KNOW... TO KNOW THAT SOMEBODY CLOSE IS REALLY BEHIND ME...
I GUESS MY BROTHER WANTED SOME REASON TO TALK TO HER LITTLE SISTER, HUH? HE'S DOING HIS BEST.
TEE HEE
Signing it gave me the boost!
O-OH, THAT'S RIGHT! THANK YOU!

EH?! S-SURE... THANKS...
WHAT'LL I DO? I CAN'T TELL AKIRA-CHAN THE TRUTH! THAT'D BE BAD ON SO MANY LEVELS!
NEXT TIME WE GO OUT FOR FUN, LET'S INVITE YOUR BROTHER ALONG, HUH?
I gotta take care of my fans!
So Sa-kkun is a fan of Kira-cchi? He should get a better hobby, huh? (Ha ha ha!)

a really scary story

IT SEEMS THERE ARE A LOT OF CELEBRITIES WITH SCARY STORIES. DO YOU HAVE ANY STORIES LIKE THAT, KIRA-CCHI?
OH, I HEARD ABOUT THAT!
I WATCHED THIS TV PROGRAM, AND IT WAS SOOO SCARY...
There was this celebrity in it..
And it made me so afraid..

YEAH? YEAH?
..... WELL, IT'S SOMETHING THAT ALWAYS HAPPENS AT MY AGENTS OFFICE.
GOOD! GOOD! COME ON, SPILL IT!
Scary stories... hm...?
WELL, I CAN'T SAY THAT I DON'T... BUT IT MAY NOT BE ALL THAT SCARY TO YOU.

OHH, KIRA-CCHI !!
Every time I'm afraid I'll get that fateful tap on the shoulder!
...THEN HIS EYES MEET MINE, AND HE GASPS AND SUDDENLY GETS THIS AWFUL LOOK OF CON-FUSION ON HIS FACE...
MY AGENT DRAGS HIMSELF OUT HIS BOSS'S OFFICE WITH THIS REALLY TIRED LOOK ON HIS FACE...

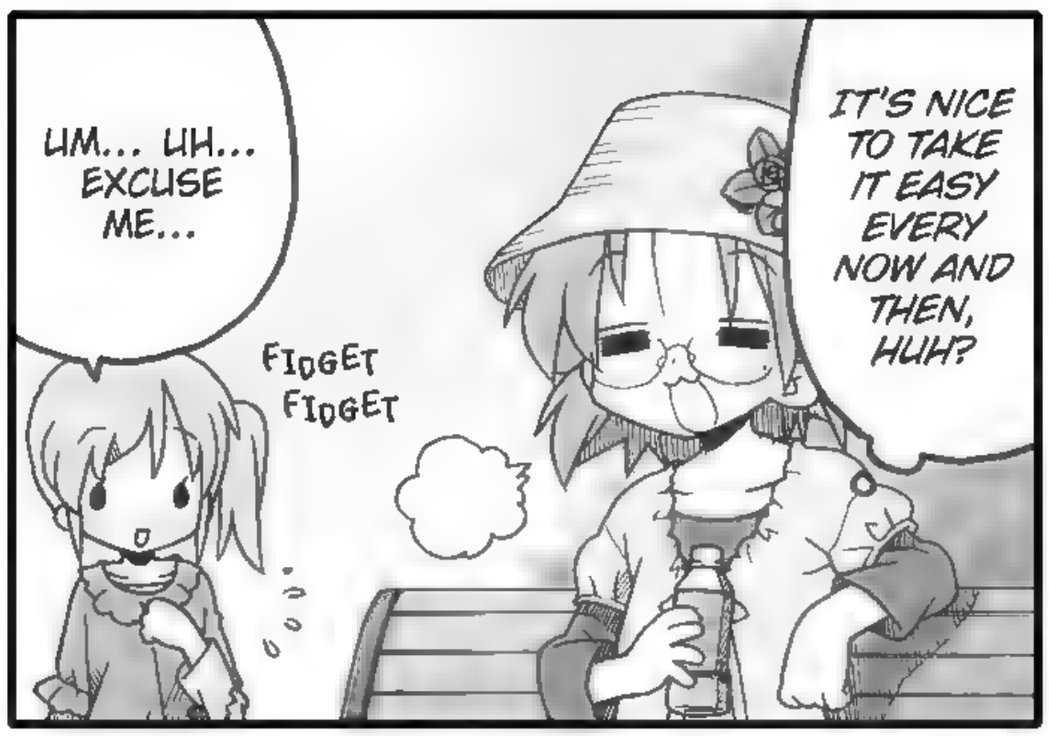
real intentions hidden by character

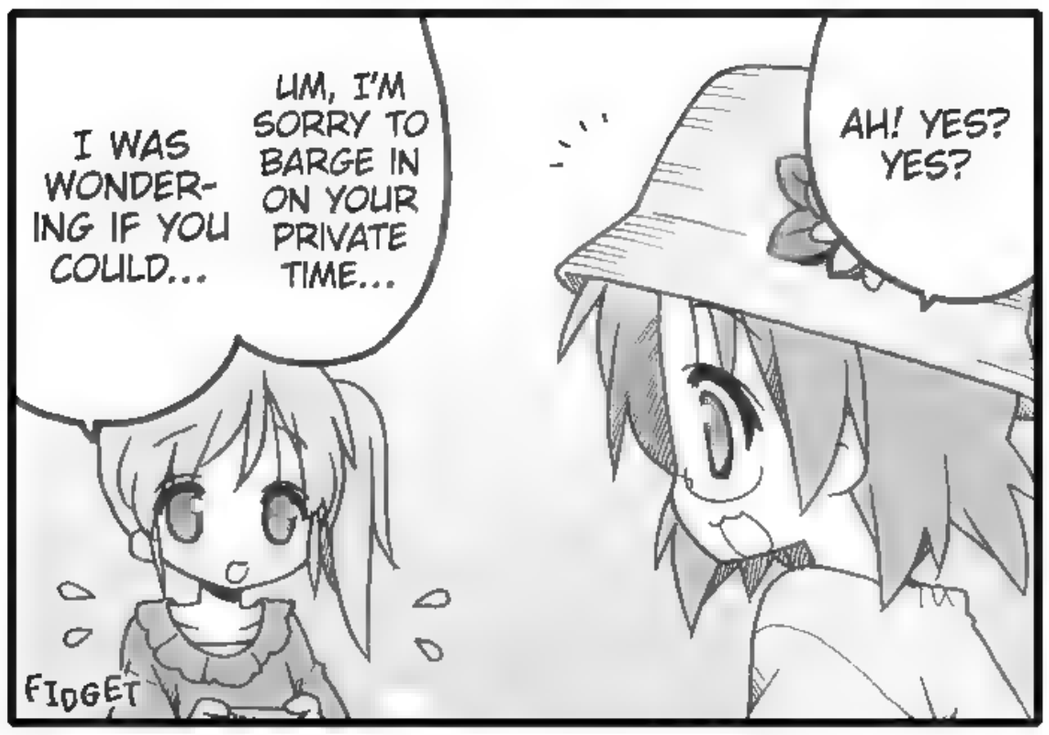
IT'S WARM, AND THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS TO DO! I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY SOMEBODY WOULD WANT TO FLY SOME-WHERE FOR NEW YEAR'S.
YEAH, MORE OR LESS.
For photo shoots and the like.
HAVE YOU EVER BEEN, KIRA-CCHI?
IN ALL THIS COLD, I CAN SEE WHY SOME CELEBRITIES SECRETLY FLY OFF TO HAWAII, HUH?
I get the feeling the warm sea would suit you, Kira-cchi!

You've been hanging out with us a lot.
BUT IF IT'S SUCH A GREAT PLACE, WHY HAVEN'T YOU BEEN GOING THERE LATELY?
REALLY? THAT'S AMAZING!

WELL, IT IS HARD FOR ME TO SAY THAT I FIND HANGING OUT WITH YOU GUYS TO BE MORE FUN THAN AN OVERSEAS TRIP.!
EH?! AHH! I DIDN'T MEAN TO...
MAA-CHIN, THAT'S A HARSHER LINE OF ATTACK THAN I EVER EXPECTED FROM YOU!
I FIND IT AMUSING HOW YOU ASK DIFFI-CULT-TO-ADDRESS QUESTIONS WITHOUT COMPUNC-TION.
Just natural back-stabbing

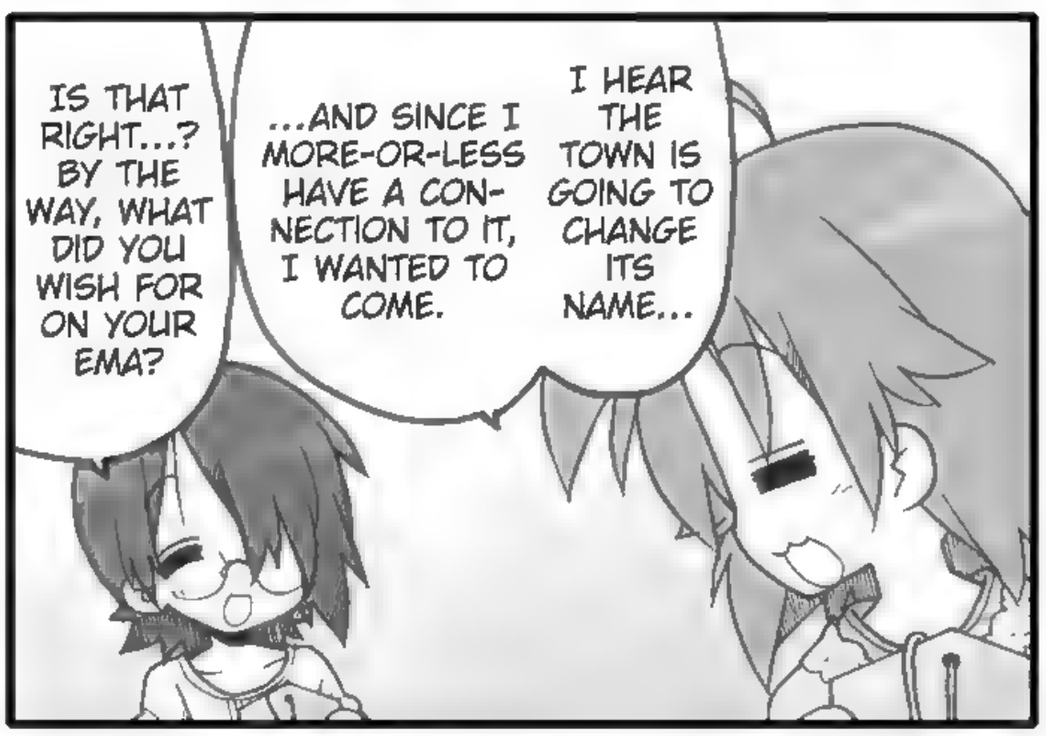
please!





ALL RIGHT! THANK YOU SO MUCH!
OF COURSE I WILL! WITH PLEASURE!
WELL, EVEN WHEN I'M PURPOSELY DISGUISED TO THROW PEOPLE OFF... I GUESS MY FAME SHINES THROUGH. WHAT'LL I DO NOW?
HAHA HA HA☆

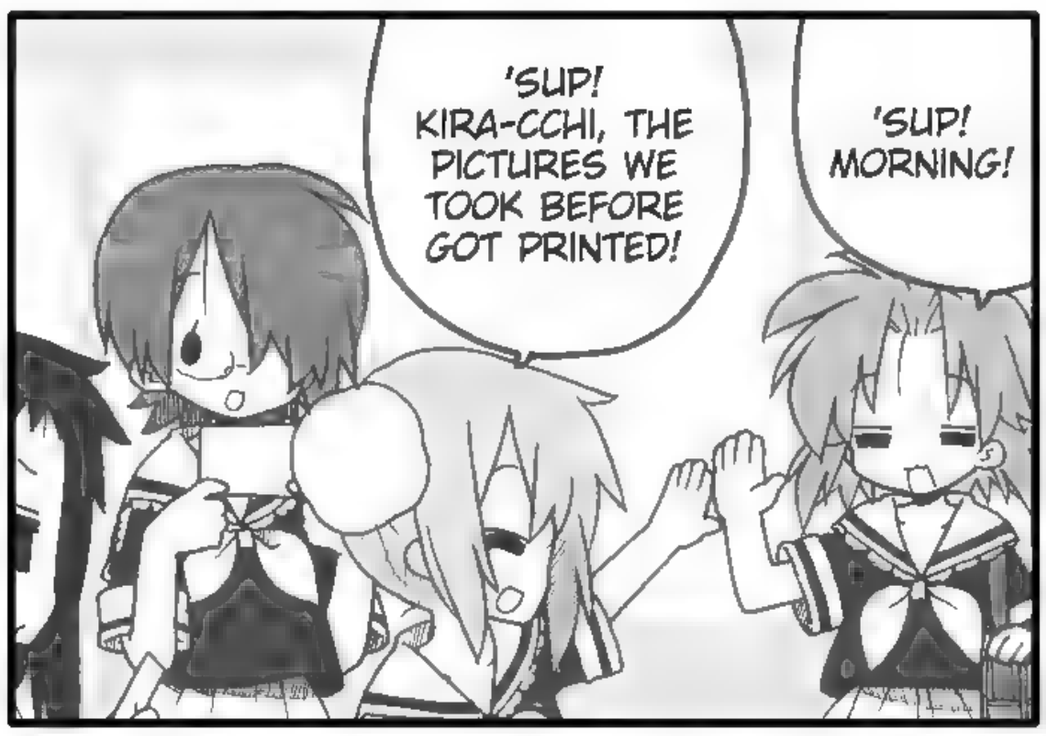
goddess level


IS THAT RIGHT...? BY THE WAY, WHAT DID YOU WISH FOR ON YOUR EMA?
...AND SINCE I MORE-OR-LESS HAVE A CON-NECTION TO IT, I WANTED TO COME.
I HEAR THE TOWN IS GOING TO CHANGE ITS NAME...

BEFORE YOU ASK SOMETHING LIKE THAT OF THE GODS, YOU HAVE TO DO YOUR BEST ON YOUR OWN FIRST!
N-NOT-IN-THE-SLIGHT-EST!!
I'LL BET IT'S SOMETHING LIKE HOW YOU'D LIKE TO BREAK BIG OR BE POPULAR.
GAK!

Wow, Akira-chan! that's so grown up!
Well, anyway, show us what's on your ema.
I DON'T KNOW THAT MUCH ABOUT THE WORLD OF CELEBRITY... BUT I KIND OF WONDER HOW HIGH A LEVEL HER "BEST" CAN GET HER.

position



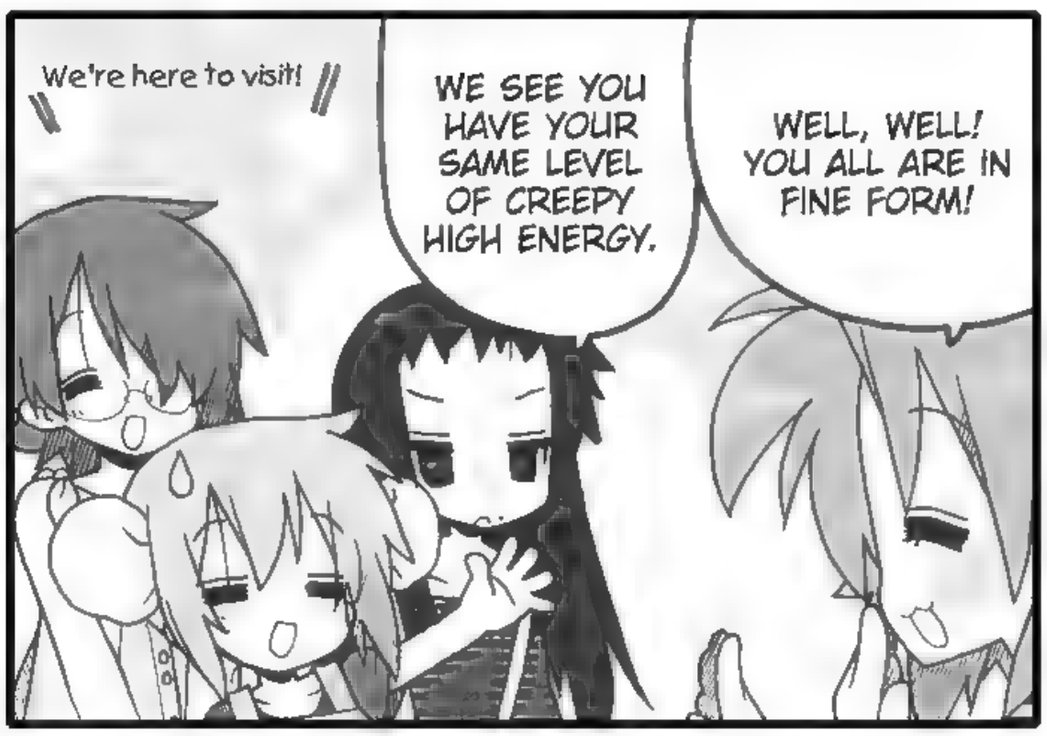
YOU KNOW, THE HABITS YOU PICK UP AT WORK ARE SCARY!
When I'm being photographed, I unknowingly avoid the center.
YOU KNOW, FOR SOME REASON, AKIRA-CHAN SEEMS TO BE ON THE EDGE OF THE PICTURES A LOT, HUH?
You're an idol! You should be having fun in the center!
It must take a lot of work to make a photo shoot look fun
SIIIGHH-

real authority

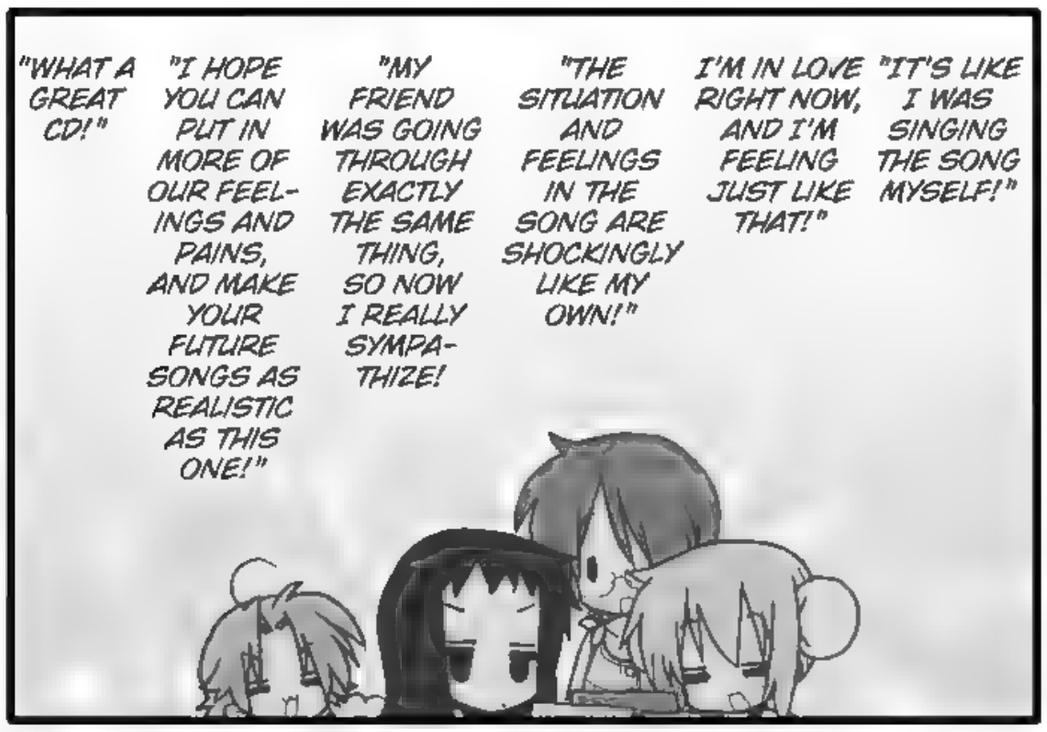
I THINK THAT RATHER THAN WHAT ADULTS DO...
She's actually older than you are..
OH, STOP THAT! THIS ISN'T ANYTHING TO GET WORKED UP ABOUT! ADULTS DON'T GET UPSET ABOUT THAT LEVEL OF THINGS.
Pshaaaw!

WHAT?! NO!! NOT IN THE SLIGHT-EST!
Aw, come on!
Very dark...
ALTHOUGH IT'S CREEPY SEEING YOU CAUGHT UP IN AN ADULT-STYLE PLOT TO REGAIN FAME.
IT SEEMS MORE LIKE WHEN A PRES-ENT CELEBRITY IS USING YOUR GREETINGS, IT'S ALMOST AS IF THE SPOTLIGHT IS GOING TO FALL ON YOU AGAIN.
G a K

faithful depiction of everyday life



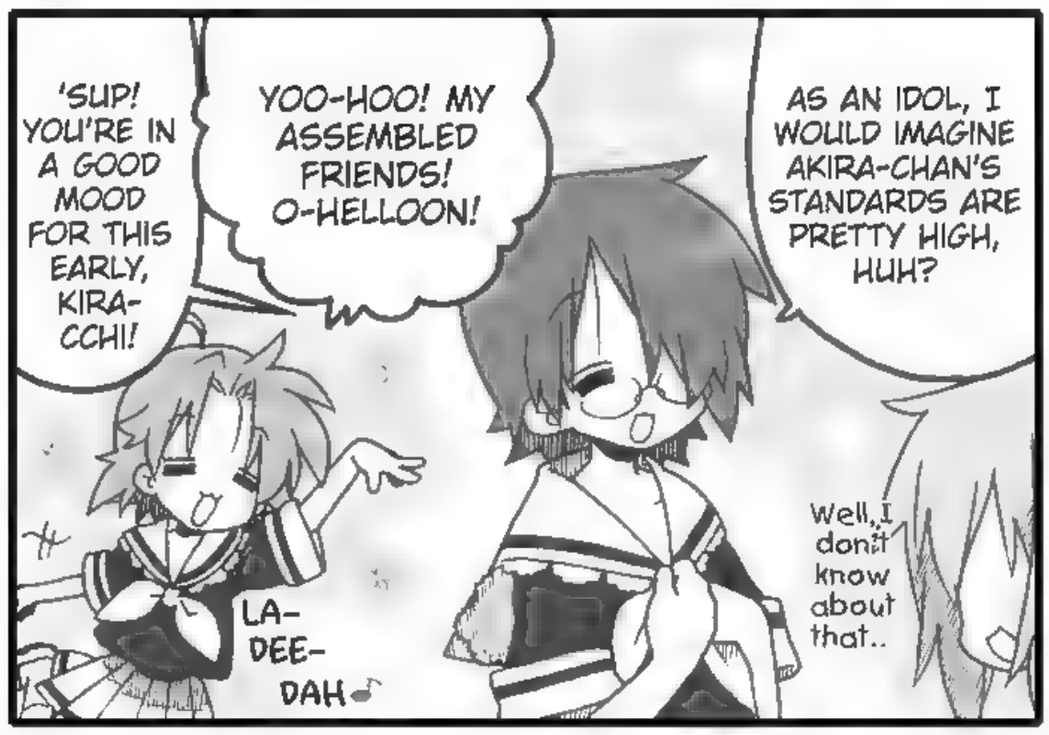
YEAH, A LITTLE WHILE BACK WHEN YOU PUT OUT YOUR CD, YOU WERE SO PROUD OF WRITING SOME OF THE LYRICS YOURSELF TOO, HUH?
WOW! INCREDIBLE!
DOOm
HEH HEH HEH... TAHDAAH! I GOT A BUNCH OF FAN LETTERS!

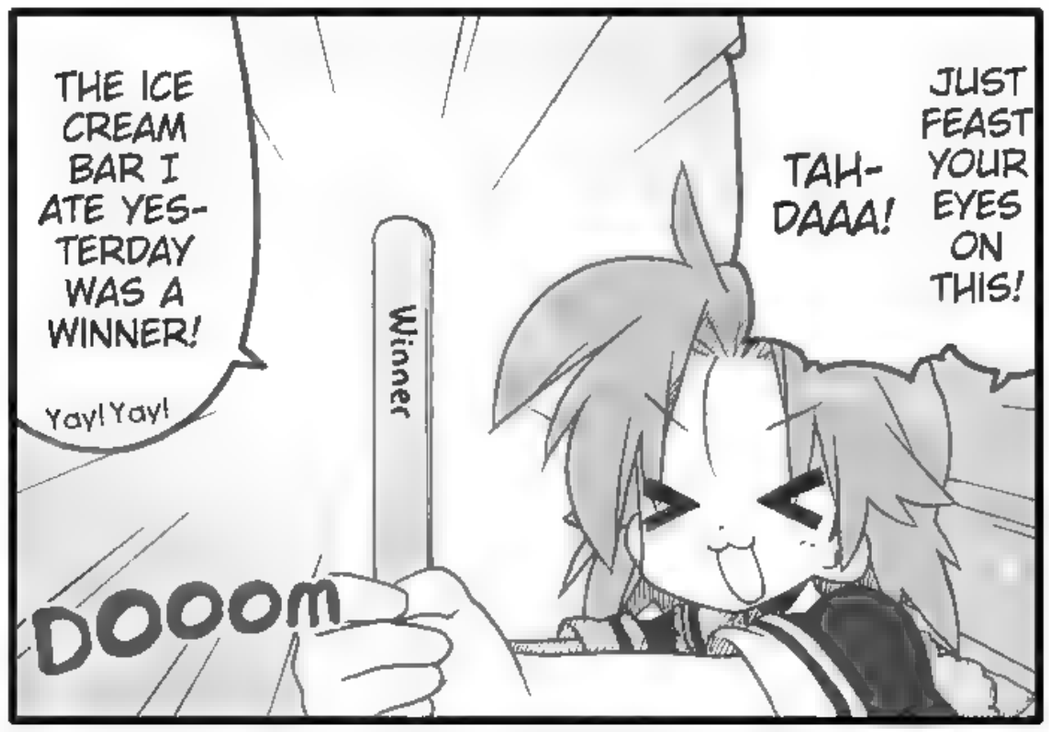

"WHAT A GREAT CD!"
"I HOPE YOU CAN PUT IN MORE OF OUR FEELINGS AND PAINS, AND MAKE YOUR FUTURE SONGS AS REALISTIC AS THIS ONE!"
"MY FRIEND WAS GOING THROUGH EXACTLY THE SAME THING, SO NOW I REALLY SYMPATHIZE!
"THE SITUATION AND FEELINGS IN THE SONG ARE SHOCKINGLY LIKE MY OWN!"
I'M IN LOVE RIGHT NOW, AND I'M FEELING JUST LIKE THAT!"
"IT'S LIKE I WAS SINGING THE SONG MYSELF!"

.... AND YOU'RE NOT SAD ABOUT THAT BECAUSE ...?
WHAT?! I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW THAT I ASKED MY MOTHER AND LITTLE SISTER ALL ABOUT IT!
SINCE ALL OF THESE PEOPLE HAVE HAD ACTUAL EXPERIENCES, IT'S A LITTLE SAD THAT THE LYRICS WERE ALL WRITTEN FROM SOMEBODY'S IMAGINATION.
Yours, to be precise
WELL... IT IS AMAZING, BUT...
WHAT DO YOU SAY TO THAT?!
I never heard even a rumor that you've ever fallen in love.
COUGH

high energy

I WONDER HOW KIRA-CCHI DEALS WITH IT.
COME TO THINK OF IT, IF I HAVE ICE-CREAM, AND IT HAS LESS THAN FOUR SCOOPS, I FEEL A LITTLE CHEATED.
A long time ago, I was more than happy with two scoops.
YEAH, YEAH! WHEN YOU LIVE IN LUXURY OR HAPPINESS FOR A LONG TIME, YOU GET USED TO IT, AND ANYTHING ELSE SEEMS TO COME UP SHORT.
GETTING USED TO LUXURY?


'SUP! YOU'RE IN A GOOD MOOD FOR THIS EARLY, KIRA-CCHI!
YOO-HOO! MY ASSEMBLED FRIENDS! O-HELLOON!
AS AN IDOL, I WOULD IMAGINE AKIRA-CHAN'S STANDARDS ARE PRETTY HIGH, HUH?
LA-DEE-DAH♪
Well, I don't know about that..



OH, COULD YOU BE FROM AKB?
Perhaps.. ?
NYA HA HA! ARE YOU JEAL-OUS BECAUSE IT WASN'T YOUR NAME THEY SAID?
NAW. PARTLY, BUT NOT REALLY.
RECENTLY A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE BEEN MAKING THAT MISTAKE.
After all that praise, they go and throw in that big unapolo-getic mistake.
I see you all the time on TV! Were you origmally in AKB?
GOO
ONG
WELL, FOR A BRIEF MOMENT, I WAS PLAN-NING ON GIVING YOU WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT, BUT YOU DON'T NEED ANY, DO YOU?
HUH? WHAT'S WRONG?
ANYBODY LATELY WHO IS KIND OF CUTE AND WEAR-ING PLEATED SKIRTS, AND THEY'RE ALL, "AKB! AKB!"
After referring to yourself a cute.

"Lately"? I've been like this all along!

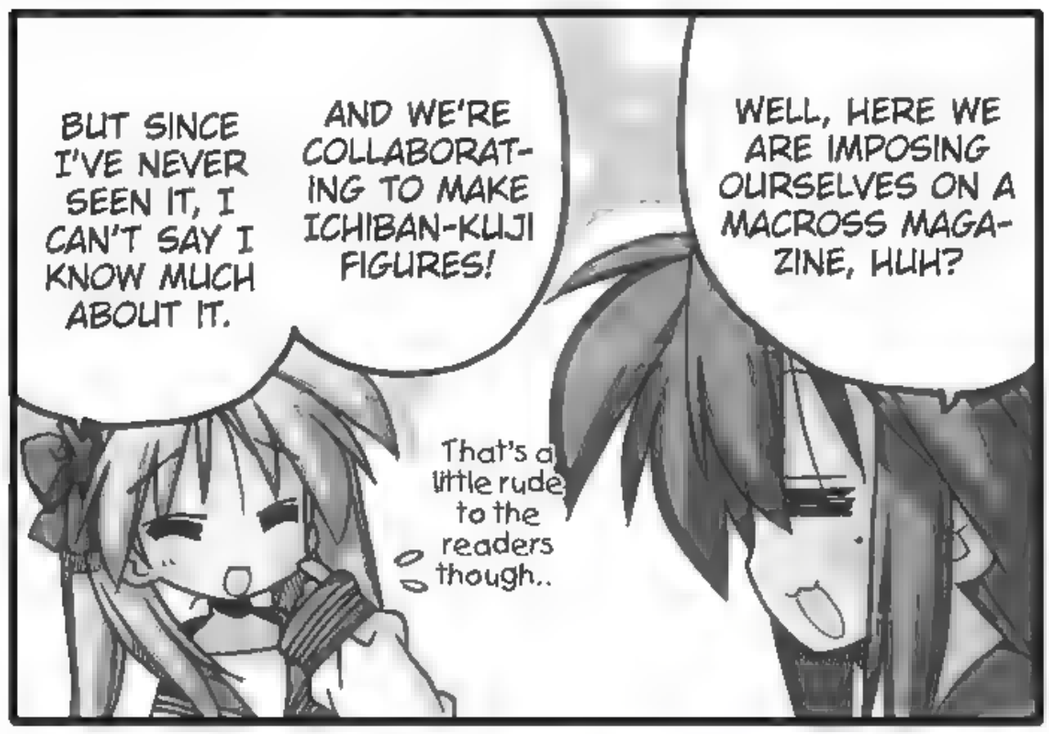
Akira Kogami

Madoka Oohara

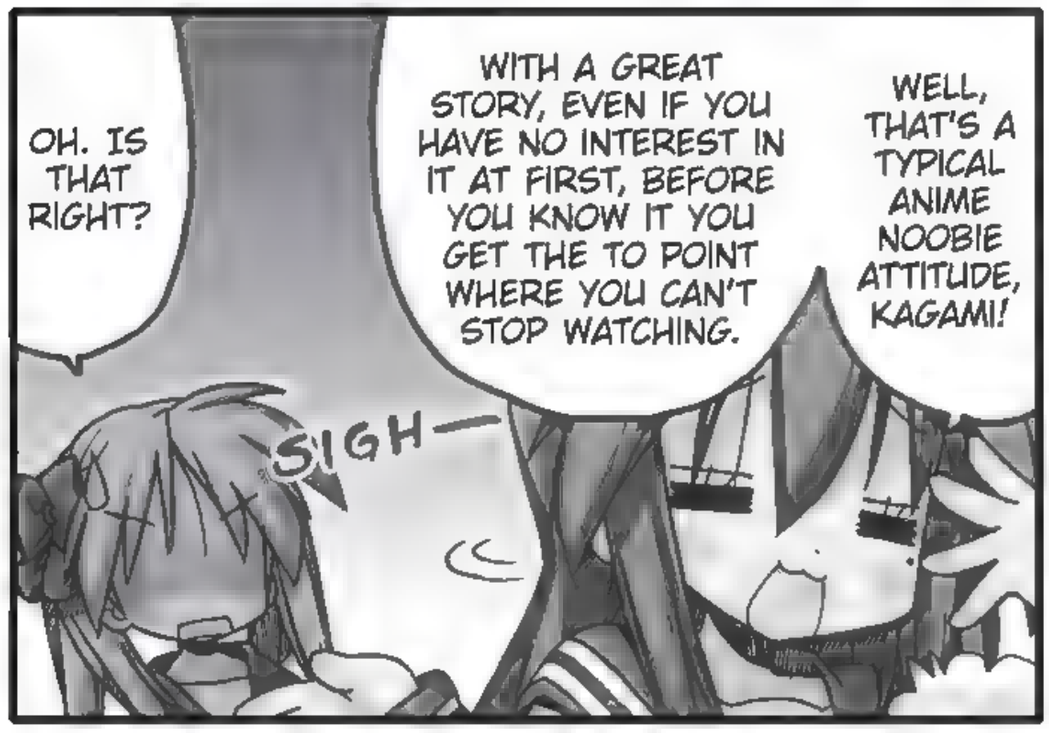
Akuru Nakatani

Rinko Otonashi

power of compulsion


BUT SINCE I'VE NEVER SEEN IT, I CAN'T SAY I KNOW MUCH ABOUT IT.
AND WE'RE COLLABORATING TO MAKE ICHIBAN-KUJI FIGURES!
WELL, HERE WE ARE IMPOSING OURSELVES ON A MACROSS MAGAZINE, HUH?
That's a little rude to the readers though..

WOW... THAT SOUNDS LIKE A SERIOUS SCIENCE-FICTION STORY, HUH?
It would be a little condescending to the readers of this magazine to say anymore, so...
WELL WHAT WITH THIS AND THAT, IT'S SORT OF A ROBOT ANIME, YOU KNOW? ITS LEGENDARY SCENES OF FORM-CHANGING FIGHTING VEHICLES ARE SOOO COOL!


OH. IS THAT RIGHT?
WITH A GREAT STORY, EVEN IF YOU HAVE NO INTEREST IN IT AT FIRST, BEFORE YOU KNOW IT YOU GET THE TO POINT WHERE YOU CAN'T STOP WATCHING.
WELL, THAT'S A TYPICAL ANIME NOOBIE ATTITUDE, KAGAMI!
SIGH—

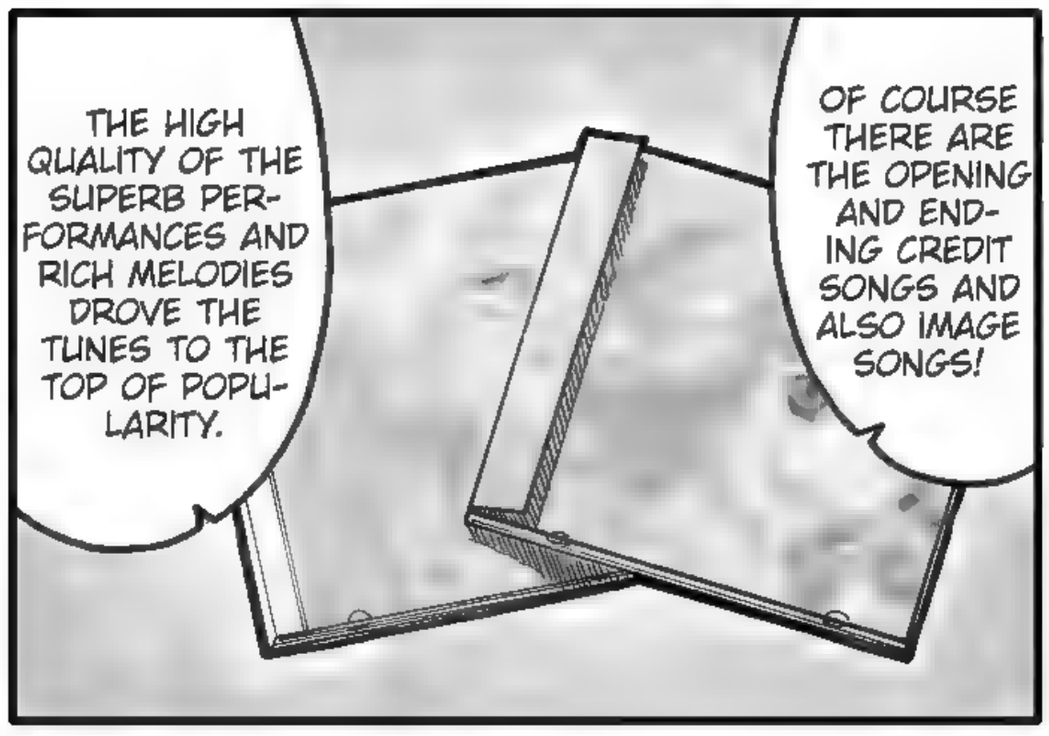
Bonus

SPECIAL 3

• Macross Ace, 2009 issue, Vol. 003

a plot used more than expected

THE SONGS! REMEMBER THAT, YOU THREE!
There's also the love triangle but let's just put that aside..
WHEN TALKING ABOUT THE GREAT STORIES OF MACROSS, ONE SUBJECT CAN'T BE IGNORED!

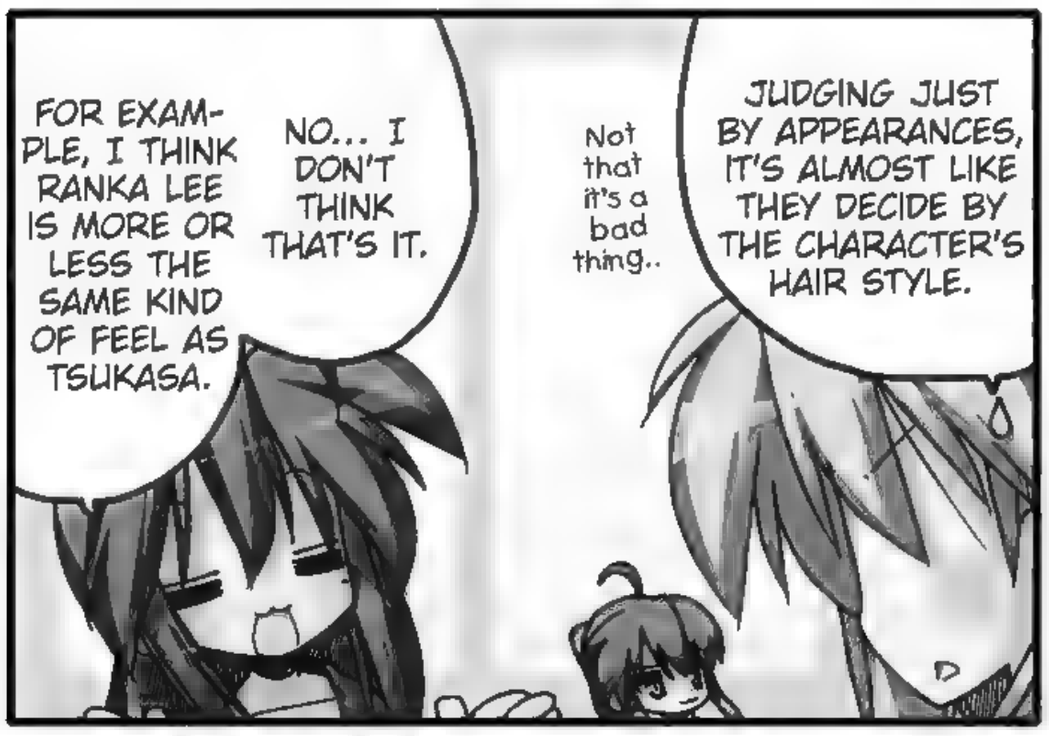

THE HIGH QUALITY OF THE SUPERB PERFORMANCES AND RICH MELODIES DROVE THE TUNES TO THE TOP OF POPULARITY.
OF COURSE THERE ARE THE OPENING AND ENDING CREDIT SONGS AND ALSO IMAGE SONGS!

IT'S BECAUSE WE HAVE SUCH PIONEERS THAT WE'RE ABLE TO SNEAK IN AND DO OUR CONCERTS OURSEVELS!
REALLY?! THAT'S AMAZING!
OF COURSE SHERYL AND RANKA SANG THERE!
EVEN TO THE POINT WHERE THEY DEBUTED A CONCERT AT THE BUDOKAN AND WENT ON TO DO LIVE PERFORMANCES EVERYWHERE!

You know! In Macross, somebody else sings the songs!
EHR! NO! THAT ISN'T WHY I WAS TALKING ABOUT IT! SORRY!
...that I couldn't go...
TH-THE BUDOKAN...?
I'm sorry...

character roles

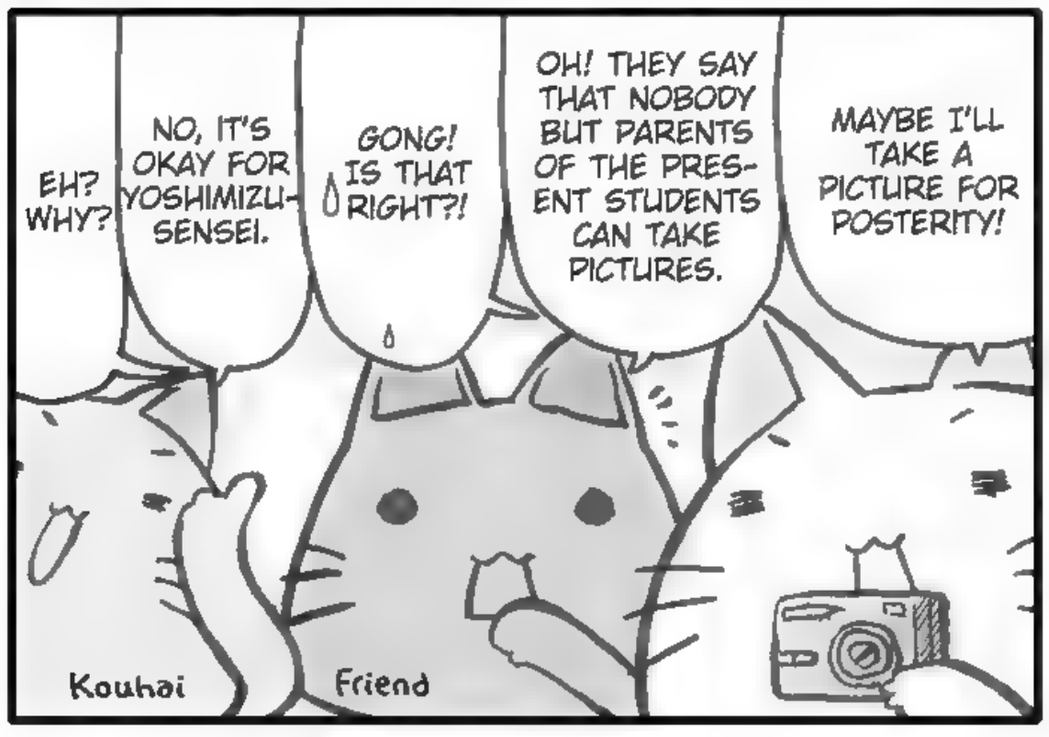
By the way, don't bring these things to school!
COME TO THINK OF IT, HOW DO YOU SUPPOSE THEY DECIDE THE CHARACTERS THEY USE FOR ICHIBAN-KUJI?
Well.. I went down to buy my tickets this morning, and this is what I won!

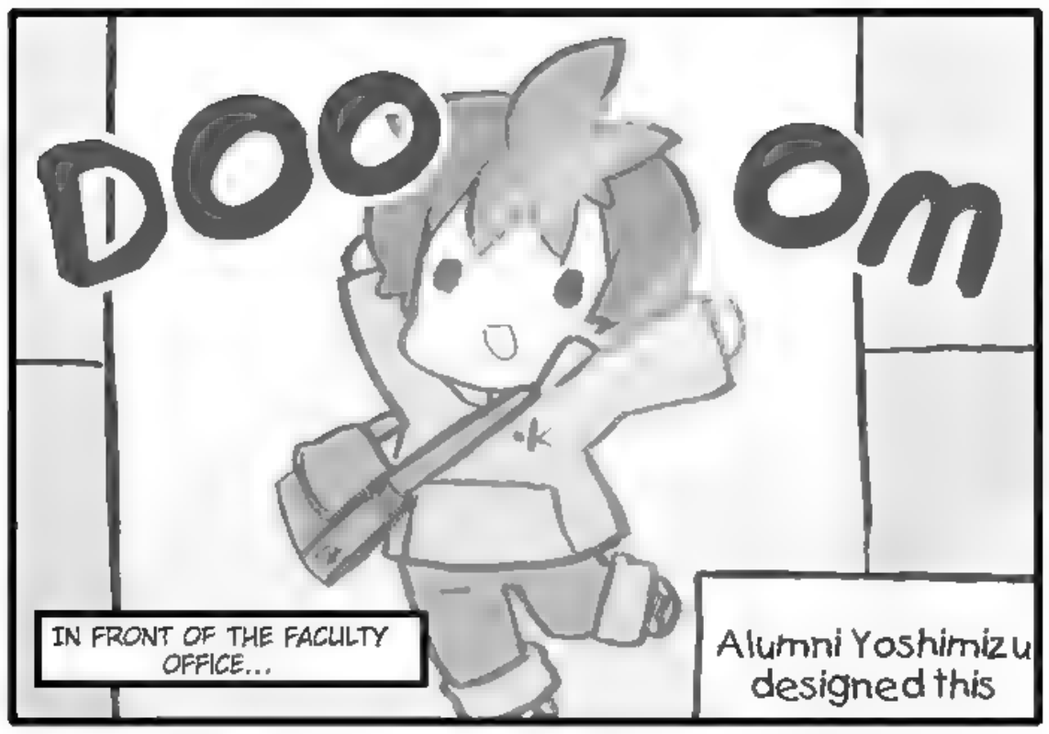

FOR EXAMPLE, I THINK RANKA LEE IS MORE OR LESS THE SAME KIND OF FEEL AS TSUKASA.
NO... I DON'T THINK THAT'S IT.
Not that it's a bad thing..
JUDGING JUST BY APPEARANCES, IT'S ALMOST LIKE THEY DECIDE BY THE CHARACTER'S HAIR STYLE.

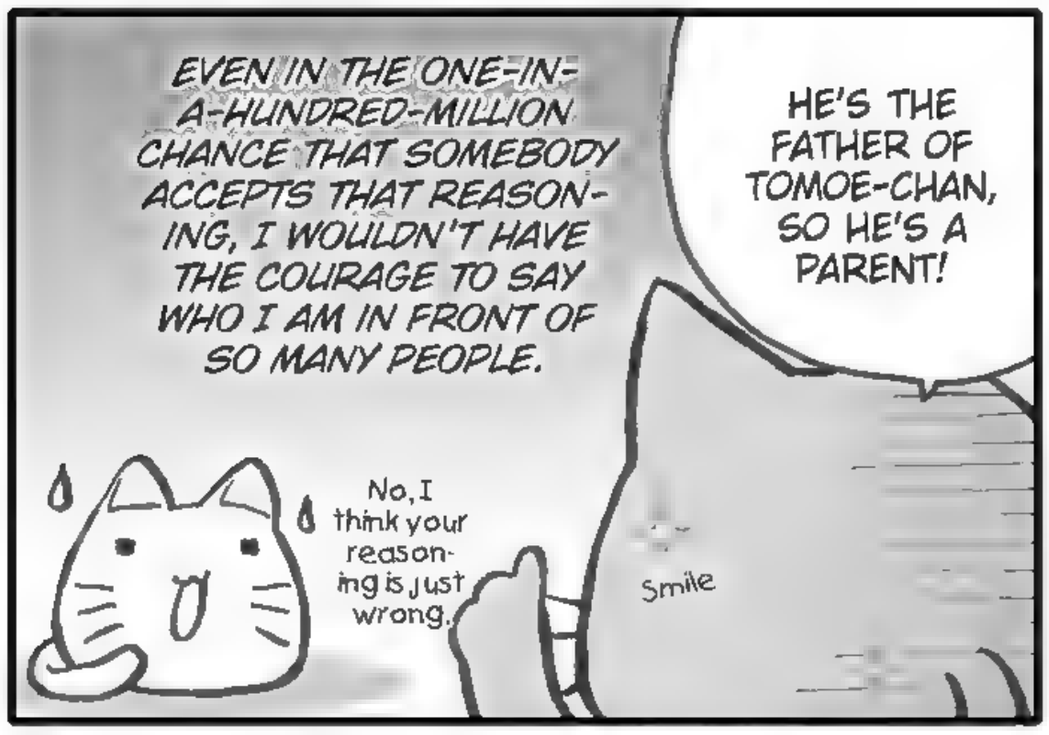
HER VOICE?!
Plum?
AND SINCE SHERYL'S POPULARITY WENT PLUM-- ER... YOU KNOW... BECAUSE OF SHERYL'S AND MIYUKI'S VOICE AND STUFF.
And their essences are kind of alike.
IN A WAY, I TAKE A PHILOSOPHICAL VIEW OF LIFE...

I'M SURE EVERYONE FIGURED THAT PUNCH LINE WAS COMING ALONG AT SOME POINT.
AH... UM...
...YOUR BATTLE INSTINCTS MUST BE IN A HEIGHTENED STATE.
Not that Clan is violent or anything.
SINCE YOU'RE CLAN, A ZENTRADI WARRIOR...
You're just trying to live up to expectations?
See? It fits you perfectly.

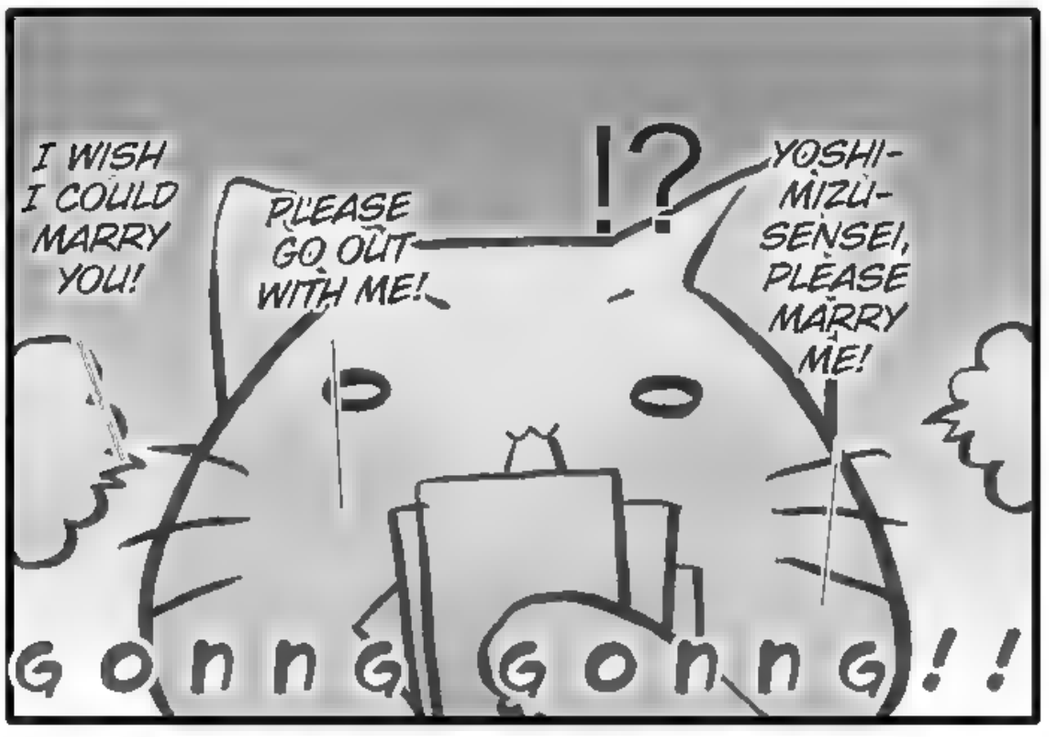
parent and child


EH? WHY?
NO, IT'S OKAY FOR YOSHIMIZU-SENSEI.
GONG! IS THAT RIGHT?!
OH! THEY SAY THAT NOBODY BUT PARENTS OF THE PRESENT STUDENTS CAN TAKE PICTURES.
MAYBE I'LL TAKE A PICTURE FOR POSTERITY!
Kouhai
Friend




EVEN IN THE ONE-IN-A-HUNDRED-MILLION CHANCE THAT SOMEBODY ACCEPTS THAT REASONING, I WOULDN'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO SAY WHO I AM IN FRONT OF SO MANY PEOPLE.
HE'S THE FATHER OF TOMOE-CHAN, SO HE'S A PARENT!
No, I think your reasoning is just wrong.
Smile

friend or rather weirdo



BUT JUST IN CASE THERE'S STILL ANY DOUBT, I WANT TO GO ON RECORD...
YOU KNOW, I KIND OF FEEL... THERE'S STILL A BUNCH THAT ARE NORMAL, SO I KNOW THAT THESE ARE JOKES OR SAYING IT TO SAY IT, BUT...
HA HA HA... OKAY, OKAY...
KAAHH

PEOPLE HAVE WASTED THEIR ENTIRE LIVES ON LESS!
...BUT WHEN YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT TO SOMEONE YOU'VE NEVER MET...
EVERYBODY, I KNOW YOU'RE STILL YOUNG...

• My very thankful feelings 8

HELLO! THIS IS YOSHIMIZU.
I SAY THIS EVERY TIME, BUT...
ONCE AGAIN.
I'VE HAD HELP FROM ALL SORTS OF PEOPLE; I'VE BEEN SUPPORTED BY ALL SORTS OF PEOPLE; AND I'VE BEEN A BURDEN ON ALL SORTS OF PEOPLE TOO.

ALSO TO YOU WHO DID ME THE FAVOR OF PICKING UP THIS VOLUME -- THE RESULT OF ALL THAT HELP, SUPPORT AND BURDEN -- IF YOU HAVE EVEN A LITTLE FUN READING IT, IT WOULD MAKE ME VERY HAPPY.

I'M SORRY THAT THIS IS SO BRIEF, BUT IN ANY CASE, I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND TO EVERYONE CONNECTED WITH THE BOOK AND TO YOU READERS, THE GREATEST THANKS IT'S POSSIBLE TO GIVE.

• EDITOR/PRODUCER

KATO-SAN

• COLORING ASSISTANT

MIKOTO-KUN

• SPECIAL THANKS

TADA-SAN

KADOTANI-SAN

YAMAGUCHI-SAN

MIDORI-SAN

MINAMI-SAN

YUKINO-SAN

MIZUKAMI-SAN

TAKAHASHI-SAN

CHIBASHIN-SAN

AKKII-KUN

NANAKKUMA-SAN

YOSHIMIZU KAGAMI

by 美水かがみ

TRANSLATOR NOTES

P.2 NEW YEAR'S MOST JAPANESE VISIT A TEMPLE OR A SHRINE (OR BOTH) ON NEW YEAR'S EVE JUST PAST MIDNIGHT OR ON NEW YEAR'S DAY. AFTER THE VISIT THERE ARE QUITE A FEW TRADITIONAL PASTIMES SUCH AS THE BATTLEDORE AND SHUTTLECOCK GAME AS WELL AS A GAME OF KARUTE (CARDS WITH POEMS WRITTEN ON THEM, AND IN A NAME-THAT-TUNE STYLE, A READER STARTS READING A POEM AND THE FIRST PERSON TO SPOT THE CORRECT CARD AND SLAP IT WINS) THAT TSUKASA MENTIONS.

P.5 SUMMER FESTIVAL ESPECIALLY DURING THE OBON SEASON (MID-AUGUST) NEARLY EVERY TEMPLE AND SHRINE HOLDS SOME KIND OF FESTIVAL. MANY OF THESE FEATURES VENDORS WHO COME ONTO THE GROUNDS, SET UP BOOTHS, AND SELL FOOD, TOYS, SOUVENIRS, OR GAMES ONE CAN PLAY FOR A PRICE. SINCE THE NIGHTS ARE SO WARM, THE FESTIVALS RUN WELL INTO THE EVENING. ONE CAN GO TO THESE FESTIVALS IN ANY FORM OF DRESS ONE DESIRES, BUT MANY YOUNG PEOPLE (AND NOT-SO-YOUNG PEOPLE) ENJOY COMING WEARING THE LIGHT COTTON KIMONO CALLED "YUKATA" TO THESE FESTIVALS.

OUT OF UNIFORM OF COURSE THE BUSINESS-STYLE DRESS THAT JAPANESE TEACHERS WEAR IN SCHOOL ISN'T A "UNIFORM" PER SE, BUT THERE ARE CLOTHING RESTRICTIONS AT SCHOOL WHICH DON'T APPLY OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL.

P.6 MAKING TROUBLE IT'S COMMON FOR FAMILY MEMBERS TO ACT AS IF THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS ARE A BURDEN ON THEIR TEACHERS, DOCTORS, BABYSITTERS, PEOPLE THEY VISIT, ETC. (EVEN WHEN BOTH KNOW THAT THE FAMILY MEMBER REFERRED TO IS EXCEPTIONALLY WELL BEHAVED.)

P.10 SUSPICIONS ACCORDING TO JAPANESE URBAN MYTHS, WHEN A BOYFRIEND MASSAGES A GIRL'S BUST, IT GROWS. SO EVERYONE IS IMAGINING HOW FAR AYA HAS GONE WITH HER BOYFRIEND.

P.22 EMA THESE ARE SMALL WOODEN PLAQUES THAT CARRY WISHES AND USUALLY A SMALL DRAWN PICTURE (THE "E" OF "EMA" MEANS "PICTURE"). THE WISHES OR ASPIRATIONS THAT ARE WRITTEN ON EMA CAN TAKE ALL KINDS OF FORMS, BUT COMMON ONES ARE THINGS LIKE "SAFE BIRTH" OR "PASSING EXAMS." RECENTLY COMMON WISHES AT THE WASHINOMIYA SHRINE ARE WISHES TO MARRY KONATA OR KAGAMI (SEE ABOVE NOTE).

V10 BETWEEN 1965 AND 1973, TOKYO'S YOMIURI GIANTS WON THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE FOR NINE CONSECUTIVE SEASONS SETTING A RECORD FOR A TEAM DYNASTY IN JAPAN. AFTER WINNING CHAMPIONSHIPS IN 2008 AND 2009, THE GIANTS WERE CHALLENGED TO TRY TO BEAT THE OLD NINE-YEAR STREAK BY TRYING TO WIN TEN CONSECUTIVE NATIONAL VICTORIES -- THIS WAS CALLED V10 FOR SHORT, AND BECAME A RALLYING CRY FOR GIANTS FANS. SOON, THE FANS OF OTHER TEAMS THOUGHT THAT THE GIANTS HAVE NO MONOPOLY ON WINNING, SO WHY CAN'T THEIR TEAM BEAT THE GIANT'S RECORD. THUS V10 BECAME A MORE WIDE-SPREAD BASEBALL FAN MEME. HERE NANAKO ASKS THE GODS TO HAVE THE CHIBA LOTTE MARINES WIN THE 10 CHAMPIONSHIPS IN A ROW (ALTHOUGH THEY HADN'T WON THE FIRST IN THE STREAK YET, AS KAGAMI POINTS OUT).

NANAKO'S EMA THE INTERESTING THING IS THAT, AFTER THIS STRIP WAS PUBLISHED IN THE SPRING OF 2010, THE CHIBA LOTTE MARINES DID GO ON TO WIN THE JAPAN SERIES IN NOVEMBER OF THAT YEAR. AND IT WAS NOTED BY THE MANGA PRESS AFTER THEY WON THAT, THIS YEAR, NANAKO WROTE THE EMA FOR THE MARINES. WAS THE WIN AND NANAKO'S PRAYER JUST A COINCIDENCE? YOSHIMIZU-SENSEI RESPONDED IN A WRITTEN STATEMENT SAYING, "WELL THEY ACTUALLY WENT AND WON IT, HUH? FIRST, CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER TO THE TEAM, THE LOTTE MARINES ORGANIZATION AS WELL AS ITS FANS, INCLUDING NANAKO. OF COURSE I FEEL THAT THE EFFORTS OF THE TEAM AND THE SUPPORT OF THE FANS ARE THE ROOT OF THE WIN, BUT THIS SHOULD ALSO FINALLY PROVE THE POWER OF PRAYER AT SHRINES. I THINK I'LL GO OUT AND MAKE A PRAYER MYSELF..."

LIONS THE SAITAMA SEIBU LIONS ARE ANOTHER TEAM FROM THE TOKYO AREA AND A COMPETITOR TO NANAKO'S BELOVED LOTTE MARINES. THEY ARE LOCATED IN THE SOUTHERN SAITAMA TOWN OF TOKOROZAWA, RIGHT NEAR THE BORDER OF TOKYO CITY LIMITS.

P.28 RRRRIP THIS IS MY APPROXIMATION OF A VELCRO WALLET BECOMING UNFASTENED. ALTHOUGH THIS DOES NOT TRANSLATE VERY WELL INTO AMERICAN CULTURE, THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE THE SOUND OF A CHEAP WALLET BEING OPENED, INDICATING TO HIYORI AND KONATA THAT MINAMI ISN'T REALLY RICH, JUST HELPING OUT YUTAKA.

P.34 WHOOSH, WHOOSH THE ARM-MOVEMENTS THAT KOU IS DOING ARE PREPARATORY EXERCISES GETTING READY TO ENTER THE CONVERSATION WITH FORCE.

P.38 HE TALKS AS IF THE ORIGINAL QUESTION IN THE JAPANESE VERSION ASKED FOR THE WORD "ATAKAMO" TO BE USED IN A SENTENCE. "ATTAKAMO" IS A WORD WHICH MEANS "AS IF. THE "FUNNY ANSWER" USED A PHRASE THAT BROKE "ATTAKAMO" INTO TWO WORDS. THIS TRANSLATION KEPT THE "AS IF" MEANING AND THE ODD BREAKING.

CARRY A SPRING ALTHOUGH THE JAPANESE USED THE WORD FOR A WIRE SPRING, "BANE," THE PUN WAS EXACTLY THE SAME IN JAPANESE.

POEM FLOWERS NOT SURPRISINGLY, THERE ARE MANY POEMS ENTITLED "FLOWERS" OR "FLOWER" (JAPANESE GENERALLY DOES NOT DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN SINGULAR AND PLURAL) WRITTEN IN JAPAN. ONE OF THE POSSIBILITIES IS A SONG BY RENTARO TAKI WRITTEN IN 1900 AD. NO MATTER WHICH ONE WAS MEANT BY THE QUESTION, IT'S A GOOD BET THAT THE ORANGE RANGE SONG OF THAT SAME NAME WHICH CAME OUT IN 2001 WOULD NOT BE AN ANSWER ON A HIGH-SCHOOL EXAM.

ABORENBOU SHOUGUN THE ACTUAL ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION WOULD BE "HACHIDAI SHOGUN" WHICH MEANS "EIGHTH SHOGUN" (THERE WAS A HINT IN THE QUESTION). HOWEVER THERE WAS A VERY POPULAR TV SAMURAI DRAMA, ABORENBOU SHOGUN, ABOUT A HIGHLY FICTIONALIZED YOSHIMUNE WHO DONS CIVILIAN DISGUISE AND RIGHTS WRONGS WITH HIS DEADLY SWORD IN EDO-PERIOD TOKYO. IT RAN FOR MORE THAN 800 EPISODES AND IS STILL RUNNING ON TV IN RERUNS TODAY.

P.43 JAPANESE MONEY THERE IS AN IMAGE ON THE 1000 YEN NOTE (EQUIVALENT OF A $10 BILL) THAT HAS A DEPICTION OF FALLING SAKURA CHERRY BLOSSOMS, AND SEVERAL FORM MICKEY MOUSE CIRCULAR-STYLE OUTLINES.

KAGAMI KAGAMI MEANS "MIRROR" IN JAPANESE. SOMETIMES A PUN JUST DOESN'T TRANSLATE.

P.56 POINTS BIG NATIONALLY-DISTRIBUTED BAKERY GOODS OFTEN HAVE SALES "CAMPAIGNS" (THE ENGLISH WORD "CAMPAIGN" IS USED IN JAPANESE) WHICH FEATURE A CERTAIN NUMBER OF POINTS ONE COLLECTS ON SPECIALLY PRINTED CARDS. THEN THOSE CARDS ARE EITHER TRADED FOR PRODUCTS AT THE REGISTER OR SENT IN TO A DRAWING FOR BIG PRIZES. USUALLY THEY COME IN ONE-POINT-PER-100-YEN INCREMENTS. BUT A PRODUCT THAT IS 199 YEN IS STILL ONE POINT, AND A PRODUCT THAT IS 200 YEN IS TWO POINTS. AT TIMES, YOU WISH YOU COULD JUST PAY THE EXTRA FEW YEN FOR THE ADDITIONAL POINT, BUT THEY ARE PRE-PRINTED ADHESIVE STAMPS FOUND ON THE PACKAGES. NO WIGGLE ROOM.

P.54 MIKKU-MIKU BEFORE THE ADVENT OF VOCALOID'S MIKU HATSUNE, "MIKKU-MIKU" WAS A SLANG TERM FOR BEATING SOMEONE UP. HOWEVER THE MIKU HATSUNE CHARACTER HAS ADOPTED IT WITH A SONG TO BE HER SIGNATURE.

COMPLEX OVER NAME MIKU'S LAST NAME IS BUSUJIMA. ALTHOUGH IT IS AN UNCOMMON LAST NAME, IT IS NOT UNKNOWN. HOWEVER, "BUSU" IS A SLANG TERM (NOT USING THE KANJI IN MIKU'S LAST NAME) THAT MEANS UGLY, ESPECIALLY IN GIRLS. IT'S AN INSULT. SO BEING LESS THAN BEAUTIFUL AND HAVING "BUSU" IN YOUR NAME COULD VERY WELL GIVE A GIRL A COMPLEX.

P.62 MIRAKARUURU THIS IS THE SONG ICHIGO NO MIRAKARUURU (STRAWBERRY MIRACLE-LE) FROM THE ANIME YUME-IRO PATISSIERE (DREAM-COLORED PATISSERIE).

P.68 STOP LINE THERE ARE MANY INTERSECTIONS IN JAPAN WHERE, IF YOU STOP AT THE STOP LINE, YOU CANNOT SEE ONCOMING TRAFFIC FROM ONE OR BOTH DIRECTIONS. IN SUCH CASES, YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO STOP AT THE LINE, THEN CREEP FORWARD UNTIL YOU CAN SEE WHEN IT IS SAFE TO PROCEED.

P.70 SECOND BUTTON IN EVERY CULTURE, THERE ARE SYMBOLS OF WHEN A GIRL AND GUY ARE GOING OUT EXCLUSIVELY. IN AMERICA OF DECADES AGO (AND THIS PROBABLY STILL EXISTS IN PLACES), THE GIRL WEARING A GUY'S HIGH-SCHOOL RING WOULD BE SUCH A SYMBOL. IN JAPAN, UPON GRADUATION, WHEN THE GUY GIVES THE GIRL THE SECOND BUTTON FROM THE TOP OF HIS UNIFORM, THE ONE CLOSEST TO THE HEART, IT IS A SYMBOL OF LOVE.

P.96 FIRST DREAM THE FIRST DREAM OF THE NEW YEAR IS CONSIDERED TO BE PROPHETIC. SEE MORE IN THE NOTES OF VOLUME 7.

P.105 VIGNETTE A VIGNETTE IS A FIGURE THAT ALSO INCLUDES A BIT OF BACKGROUND. IN THIS CASE, IT'S A FIGURE OF KAGAMI RECLINING AND READING A BOOK WHILE MUNCHING ON SOME SNACKS. IT HAS A LITTLE BIT OF THE FURNITURE IN HER ROOM.

P.107 DRINKING MEETING GENERALLY HELD AFTER WORK WITH WORK ASSOCIATES (ALTHOUGH IT CAN BE HELD WITH FRIENDS OR ACQUAINTANCES TOO), THIS IS WHERE A GROUP OF PEOPLE GO A BAR, IZAKAYA, OR OTHER PLACE WHERE LIQUOR IS PLENTIFUL TO DRINK, RELAX, AND BE SOCIAL.

P.117 THE "B" WORD IN THIS STRIP, KONATA USED THE ENGLISH WORD HERE, SO THE TRANSLATION KEPT IT IN. IT REFERS TO SOME REACTIONS BY THE MORE RABID IDOL FANS WHEN THEY LEARNED THAT THEIR FAVORITE IDOL HAD BEEN "TAKEN" BY SOME OTHER MAN. ONE OF THE NEWSPAPERS SPONSORED A POLL OF OTAKU. THE RESULTS INDICATED THAT VAST MAJORITY OF OTAKU TOOK THE FACT OF THEIR IDOLS HAVING A BOYFRIEND WITHOUT A PEEP OF COMPLAINT. IT WAS ONLY THE ANONYMOUS LOUDMOUTHS THAT GAVE THE REPUTATION OF OTAKU EVERYWHERE A BLACK EYE.

P.118 ENTRANCE EXAMS ENTRANCE EXAMS ARE NEARLY ALL HELD IN JANUARY AND AT LATEST FEBRUARY. SINCE THIS STRIP CAME OUT IN LATE SUMMER, EARLY AUTUMN, THERE IS NO WAY THAT KONATA COULD HAVE USED THIS JUST-PUBLISHED BOOK TO PASS HER EXAMS.

P.121 GIZA-10 THE 10-YEN COIN IS ABOUT THE SIZE OF A QUARTER, AND THE STYLE HASN'T REALLY CHANGED FOR DECADES. ONE OF THE CHANGES IS FOR A SHORT WHILE, (FROM 1951-1958) THEY HAD A "SERRATED" EDGE TO THE COIN LIKE THE EDGE STYLE THAT IS FOUND ON U.S. QUARTERS. THE BUMPY FEEL USES THE ONOMATOPOEIA, "GIZA-GIZA," AND SO THESE OLD COINS ARE CALLED "GIZA 10."

P.124 IDOLLING!!! IDOLING!!! IS A VARIETY SHOW ON FUJI TV NETWORK THAT FOLLOWS ABOUT 20 YOUNG JAPANESE IDOLS. PART REALITY TV, PART MUSIC PROGRAM, AND PART GAME SHOW, THE IDOLS LOOK FOR FAME THROUGH PERSONALITY, LOOKS, EFFORT, AND IN MANY CASES, TALENT.

AVOID THE CENTER ODDS ARE THAT MOST OF THE PHOTO SHOOTS THAT AKIRA GOES ON ARE OCCASIONS WHERE A LARGE GROUP OF IDOLS ARE INVITED. AT SUCH TIMES, THE MORE SUCCESSFUL AND POPULAR IDOLS ARE POSITIONED IN THE CENTER AND LESS-POPULAR IDOLS SUCH AS AKIRA WOULD BE PUSHED TO THE EDGES OF THE PHOTO.

P.125 WINNER THE BRAND OF POPSICLE, GARI-GARI-KUN, PLACES NOTES CARVED INTO THE POPSICLE STICK SO THAT ONCE YOU HAVE EATEN THE ENTIRE POPSICLE, YOU CAN SEE IF YOU WON ANOTHER FREE GARI-GARI-KUN POPSICLE. SO WHAT AKIRA IS SO EXCITED ABOUT HERE WAS WINNING A FREE POPSICLE.

P.128 ICHIBAN-KUJI ICHIBAN-KUJI ARE A SERIES OF TOYS MADE BY BANPRESTO. THEY ARE SOLD IN AN INTERESTING WAY: THE TOYS (USUALLY FIGURES) ARE NOT SOLD DIRECTLY, BUT ONE BUYS TICKETS AND THE TOY IS THE PRIZE. OF COURSE THE CHANCES OF WINNING A PRIZE ARE MUCH BETTER THAN THE CHANCES OF WINNING A LOTTERY, BUT LIKE ANY LOTTERY, THERE IS A CHANCE OF NOT WINNING ANYTHING FOR YOUR MONEY. THE COLLABORATION THAT KAGAMI IS TALKING ABOUT IS A SERIES OF FOUR FIGURES -- EACH OF THE MAIN CHARACTERS OF LUCKY STAR -- DRESSED AND POSING AS FOUR OF THE MAIN CHARACTERS OF MACROSS F. MIYUKI IS DRESSED AS SHERYL (THE VOICE ACTRESS FOR MIYUKI AND SHERYL ARE THE SAME PERSON), AND KAGAMI IS DRESSED AS THE ZENTRADI WARRIOR CLAN CLANG.

P.129 VOICE AYA ENDOU PLAYS SHERYL IN MACROSS F, BUT SHE ALSO PLAYS MIYUKI TAKARA IN LUCKY STAR. THE "PLUM" THAT KONATA IS REFERRING TO WAS THE WORD "PLUMMETED" CUT OFF. IT TALKS ABOUT HOW SHERYL'S POPULARITY DECREASED AS MACROSS F WENT ON, AS DID MIYUKI'S A BIT IN LUCKY STAR. BUT KONATA CAUGHT HERSELF BEFORE SAYING A TRUTH THAT WOULD HURT MIYUKI'S FEELINGS.

P.135 GONGENDO THIS IS A SECTION NEAR THE TRAIN STATION OF THE TOWN OF SATTE IN SAITAMA. IT IS A RIVER EMBANKMENT WITH A LINE OF SAKURA CHERRY-BLOSSOM TREES AND RAPESEED FLOWERS.

BESTS OF JAPAN THE CARP STREAMER (REALLY MORE LIKE A WIND-SOCK) IS THE LARGEST IN JAPAN. IT IS HELD ON "BOY'S DAY" IN EARLY MAY DURING A SEASON WHEN MOST FAMILIES WITH YOUNG BOYS FLY 1-METER-TO-TEN-METER LONG CARP STREAMERS (SOME ARE EVEN SLIGHTLY LARGER). HOWEVER, KAZO IN SAITAMA PREFECTURE SEND UP A CARP STREAMER THAT'S 100 METERS LONG -- ABOUT THE SIZE OF A FOOTBALL FIELD. AND THE KITES IN KASUGABE TOWN COME IN AT 15 METERS X 11 METERS (NEARLY 50 FEET X 36 FEET) AND WEIGH 800 KG (MORE THAN 1760 LBS). BOTH OF THESE EVENTS HAPPEN IN EARLY MAY.

P.136 NOBUO NO SHIRO THIS IS A MOVIE BASED ON A NOVEL WRITTEN IN 2007 BASED ON JAPANESE HISTORY JUST A FEW YEARS PRIOR TO THE TOKUGAWA SHOGUNATE'S START. IT FILMED SOME OF THE ACTION SCENES IN SAITAMA PREFECTURE AND IS EXPECTED TO BE RELEASED (AS OF THIS TRANSLATION) IN THE AUTUMN OF 2011.

TANABATA ASIDE FROM BEING THE DAY OF KAGAMI'S AND TSUKASA'S BIRTH, IT IS ALSO AN ANCIENT CHINESE SUMMER FESTIVAL THAT THE JAPANESE HAVE TAKEN AS THEIR OWN. ALTHOUGH CUSTOMS FOR TANABATA CAN VARY, ONE OF THE COMMON TRADITIONS ALL THROUGHOUT JAPAN IS TO WRITE A WISH ON A SMALL SLIP OF PAPER AND HANG IT FROM A BAMBOO TREE. THAT'S THE "WISH LIST" THAT KONATA IS REFERRING TO IN THIS STRIP, AND AS KAGAMI REMINDS HER, ACTUAL JAPANESE TRADITION CALLS FOR LESS MATERIALISTIC WISHES.

P.137 TOLL FISHING TOLL FISHING SITES ARE PRIVATELY STOCKED FISHING AREAS OF LARGER WATERWAYS OR ENCLOSED PONDS THAT CHARGE A FEE FOR FISHING THERE. IN MANY CASES, ONE CAN RENT FISHING EQUIPMENT ON TOP OF THE ENTRANCE CHARGE, SO IT CAN COME OUT AS AN EXPENSIVE EXPERIENCE. BUT, SINCE THE AREA IS STOCKED WITH FISH, ONE USUALLY MANAGES TO CATCH SOMETHING FOR ONE'S MONEY.

SHOULDER-CARRIED MANY FESTIVALS ALL OVER JAPAN FEATURE LARGE WOODEN SHRINES THAT ARE CARRIED ON THE SHOULDERS OF DOZENS OF TOWNSPEOPLE DURING THE FESTIVAL. HOWEVER ASIDE FROM THE TRADITIONAL BEAUTIFULLY ORNAMENTED HAND-CARRIED SHRINE, WASHINOMIYA SHRINE, RESPONDING TO THE HUGE INFLUX OF OTAKU, DECIDED TO MAKE A SPECIAL LUCKY STAR SHRINE FOR THEIR FESTIVAL. IT WAS MADE FOR ONLY 15,000 YEN (ABOUT $150) AND WAS VERY LIGHT COMPARED TO THE TRADITIONAL SHRINE, BUT IT ALSO WAS EXTREMELY POPULAR FOR THE OTAKU WHO ATTENDED THE EVENT. AS OF THIS TRANSLATION, THE LUCKY STAR SHRINE IS STILL ON DISPLAY AT WASHINOMIYA SHRINE.

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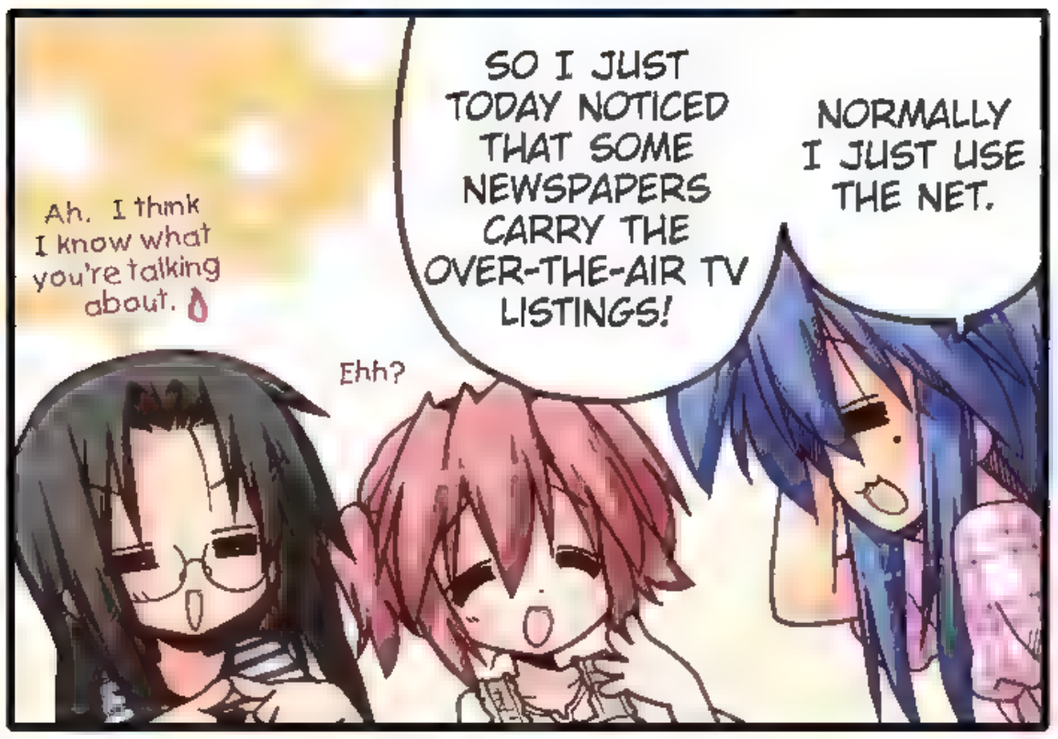
BONUS

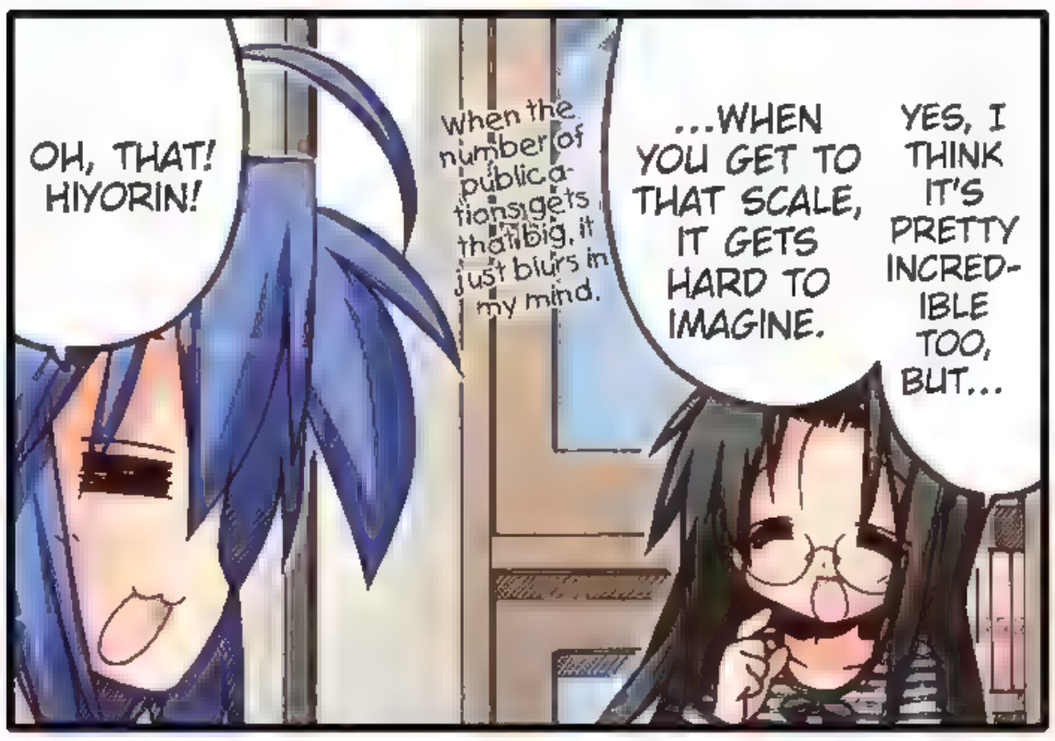
SPECIAL 4

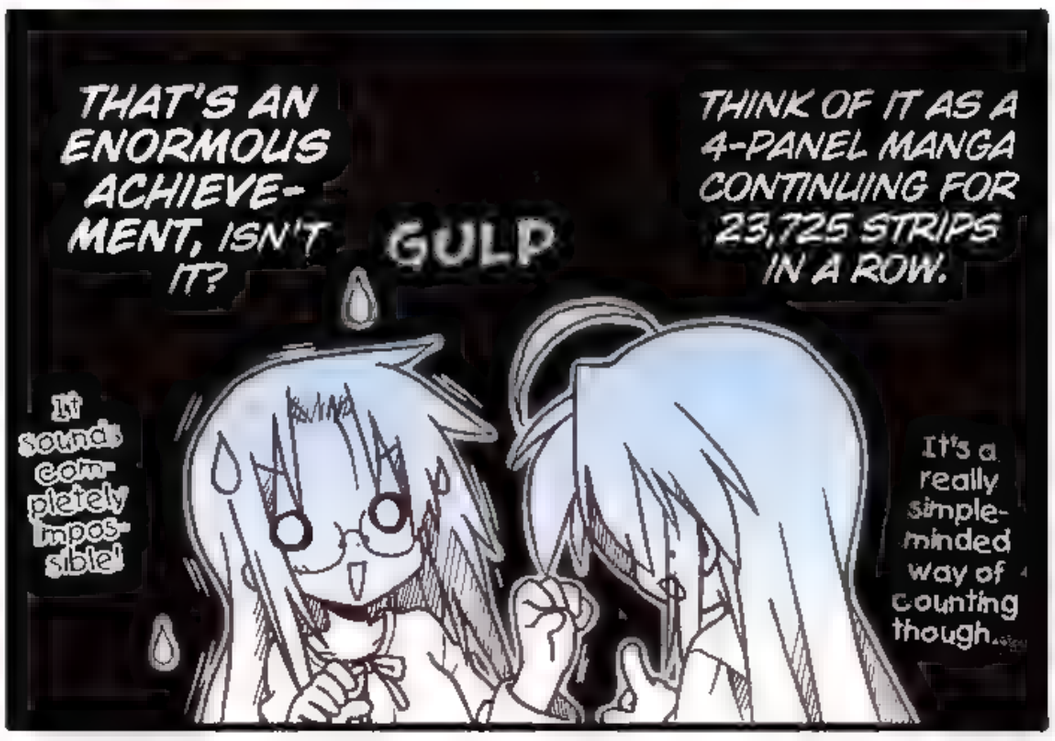
Saitama Shinbun Newspaper, October 2009.

the standard for investigations


Ah. I think I know what you're talking about.
Ehh?
SO I JUST TODAY NOTICED THAT SOME NEWSPAPERS CARRY THE OVER-THE-AIR TV LISTINGS!
NORMALLY I JUST USE THE NET.

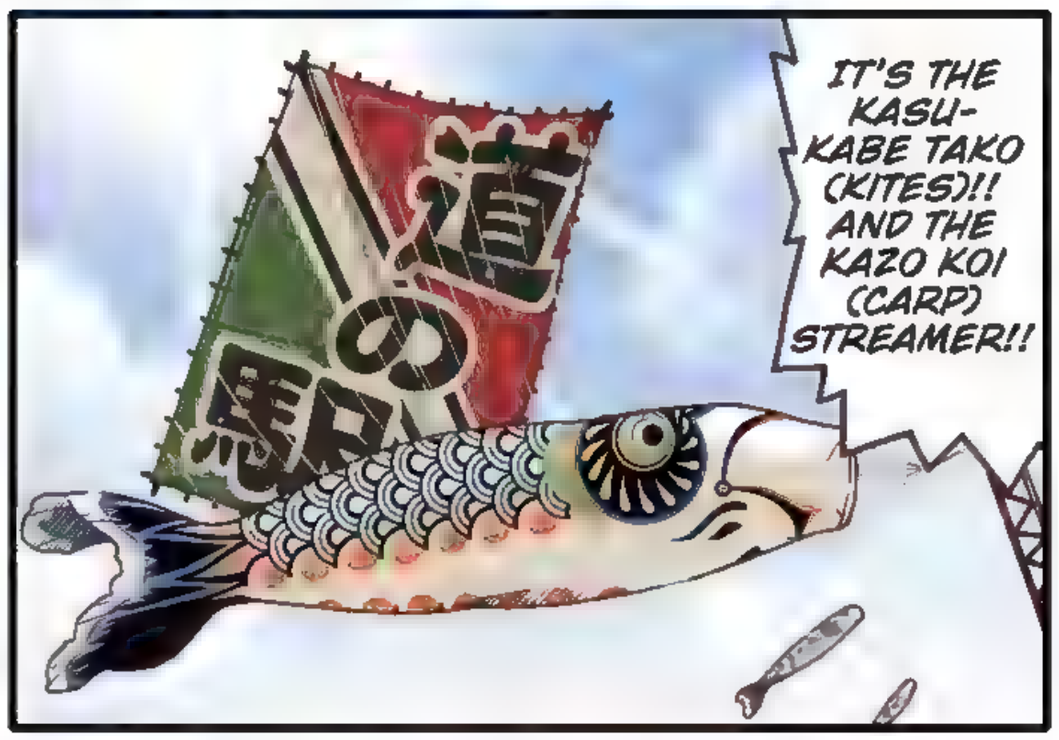
RIGHT! RIGHT! I WAS SURPRISED AT HOW OLD-AND-ESTABLISHED IT IS!
Pretty incredible, huh?
Speaking of newspapers..
ONEE-CHAN, THAT SAITAMA SHINBUN NEWSPAPER YOU WERE READING IS TURNING 65 YEARS OLD THIS YEAR.

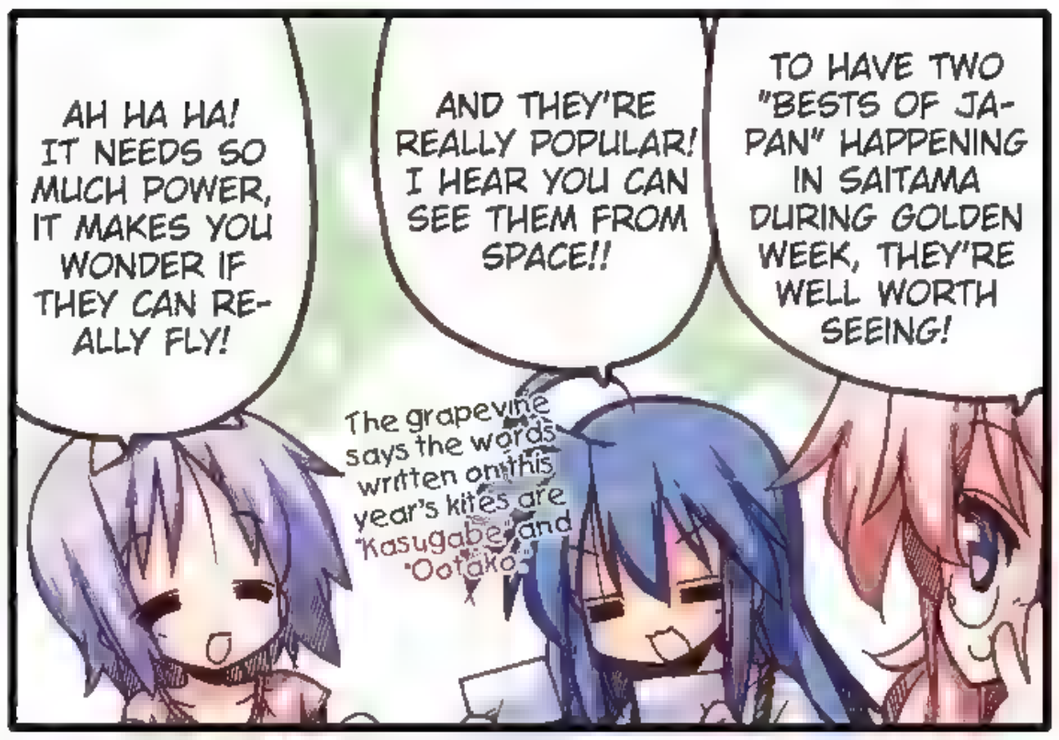

OH, THAT! HIYORIN!
When the number of publications gets that big, it just blurs in my mind.
...WHEN YOU GET TO THAT SCALE, IT GETS HARD TO IMAGINE.
YES, I THINK IT'S PRETTY INCREDIBLE TOO, BUT...


THAT'S AN ENORMOUS ACHIEVEMENT, ISN'T IT?
GULP
THINK OF IT AS A 4-PANEL MANGA CONTINUING FOR 23,725 STRIPS IN A ROW.
It sounds completely impossible!
It's a really simple-minded way of counting though...

• Saitama Shinbun, October, 2009.

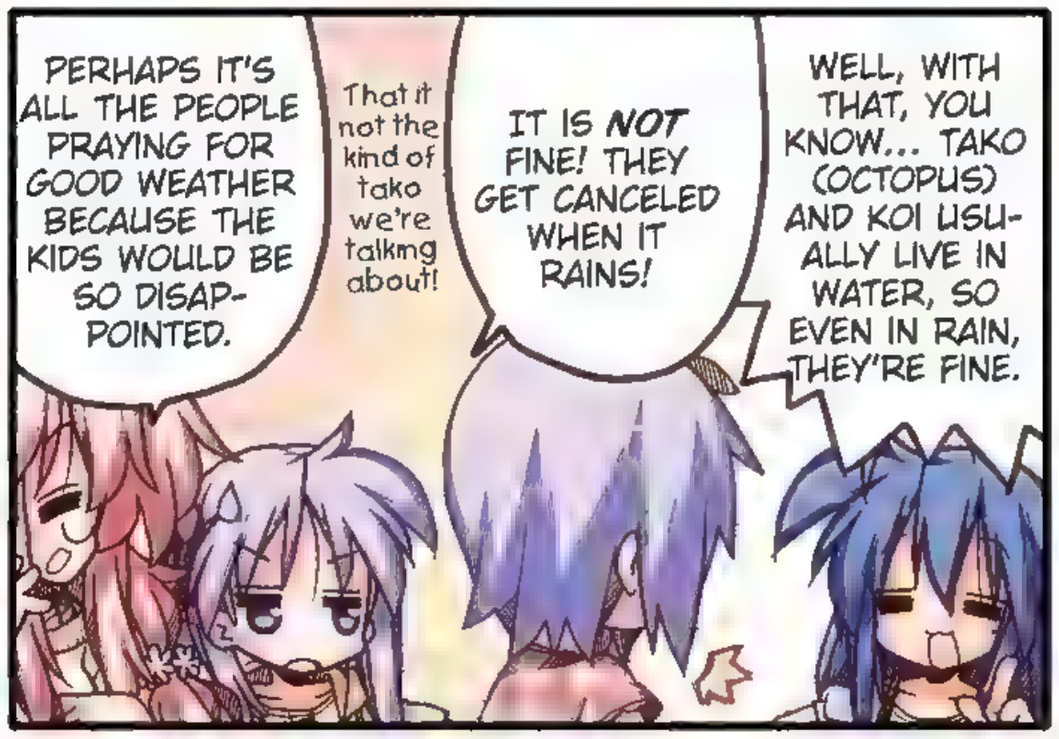
rising to the heavens




AH HA HA! IT NEEDS SO MUCH POWER, IT MAKES YOU WONDER IF THEY CAN RE-ALLY FLY!
AND THEY'RE REALLY POPULAR! I HEAR YOU CAN SEE THEM FROM SPACE!!
TO HAVE TWO "BESTS OF JA-PAN" HAPPENING IN SAITAMA DURING GOLDEN WEEK, THEY'RE WELL WORTH SEEING!
The grapevine says the words written on this year's kites are "Kasugabe" and "Ootako."

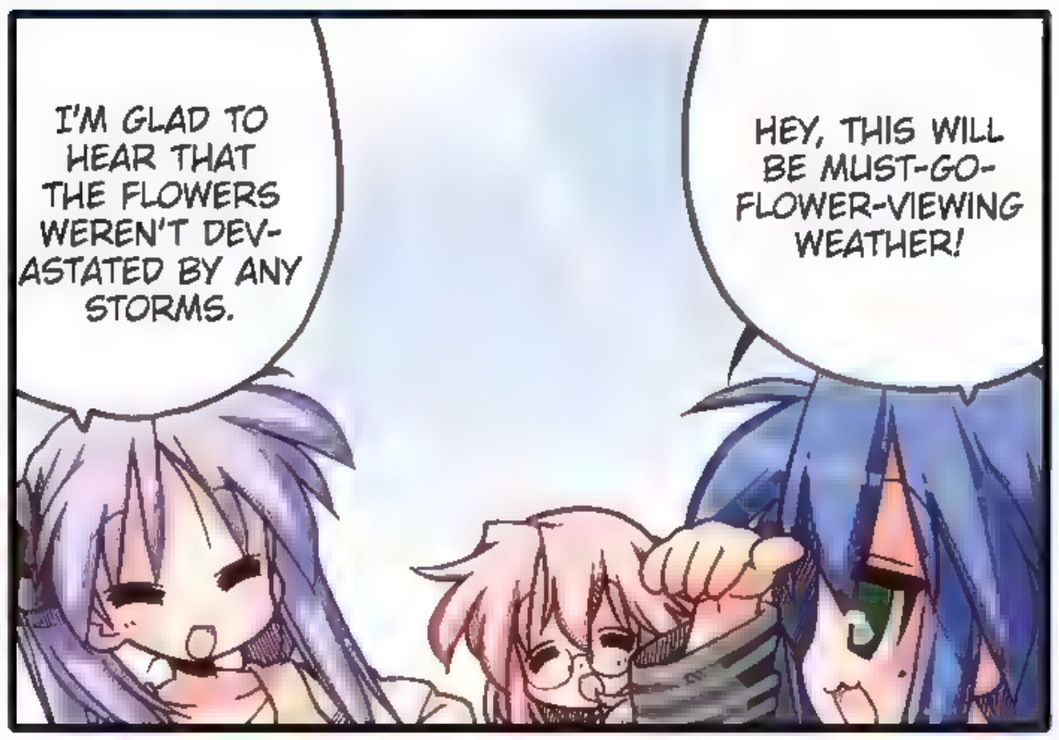
KASUGABE = LOCAL TOWN NAME. OOTAKO = "BIG KITE."

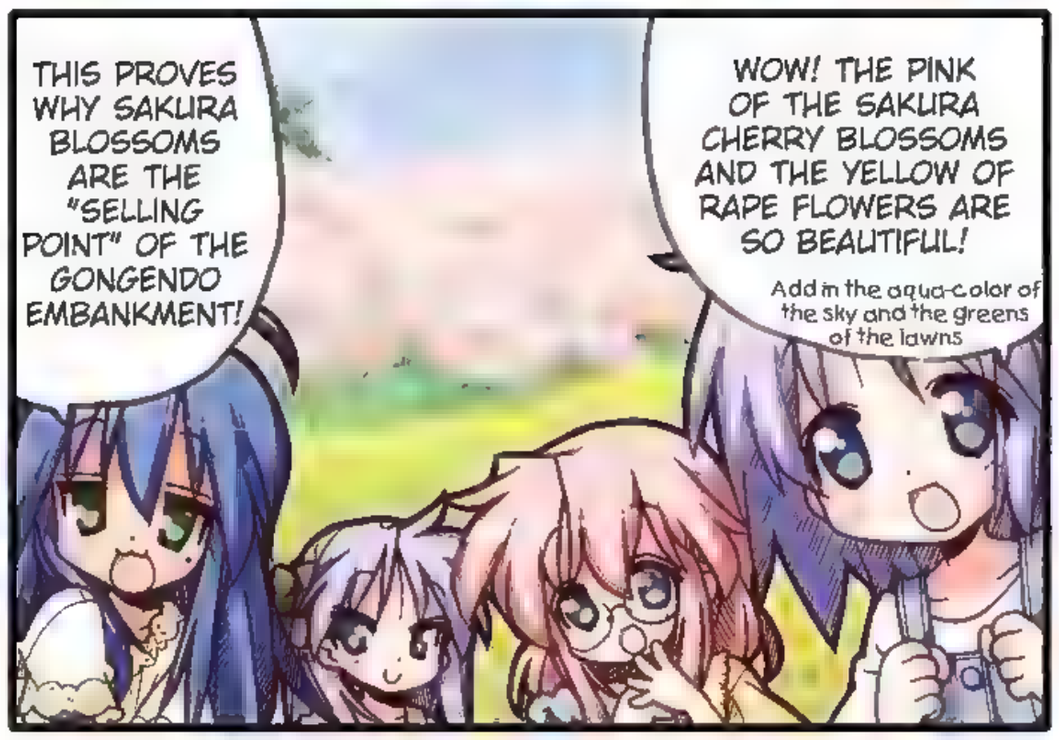
I'M A LITTLE WEIRDED OUT BECAUSE YOU HARDLY EVER HEAR THAT THEY'VE BEEN CANCELED OR FAILED TO RISE DUE TO RAIN OR LOW WIND.
BUT I HEAR FOR EACH ONE OF THEM THE WEATHER PLAYS A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE.
Come to think of it, it always seems to..
give an image of nice weather!

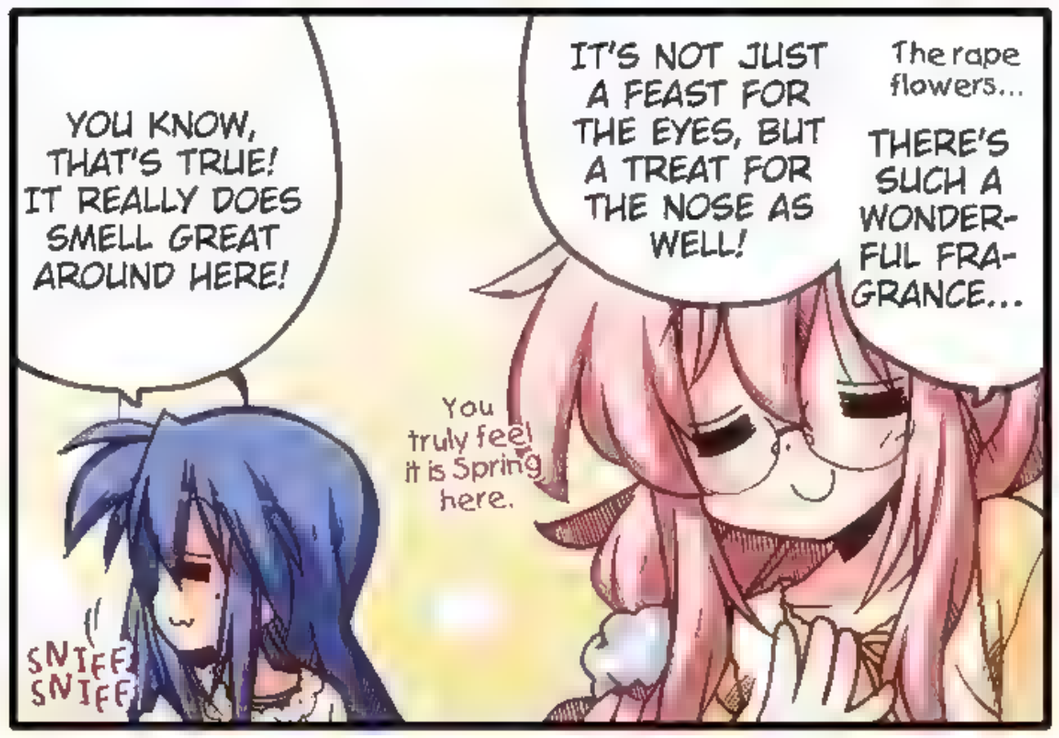

PERHAPS IT'S ALL THE PEOPLE PRAYING FOR GOOD WEATHER BECAUSE THE KIDS WOULD BE SO DISAP-POINTED.
That it not the kind of tako we're talkmg about!
IT IS NOT FINE! THEY GET CANCELED WHEN IT RAINS!
WELL, WITH THAT, YOU KNOW... TAKO (OCTOPUS) AND KOI USU-ALLY LIVE IN WATER, SO EVEN IN RAIN, THEY'RE FINE.

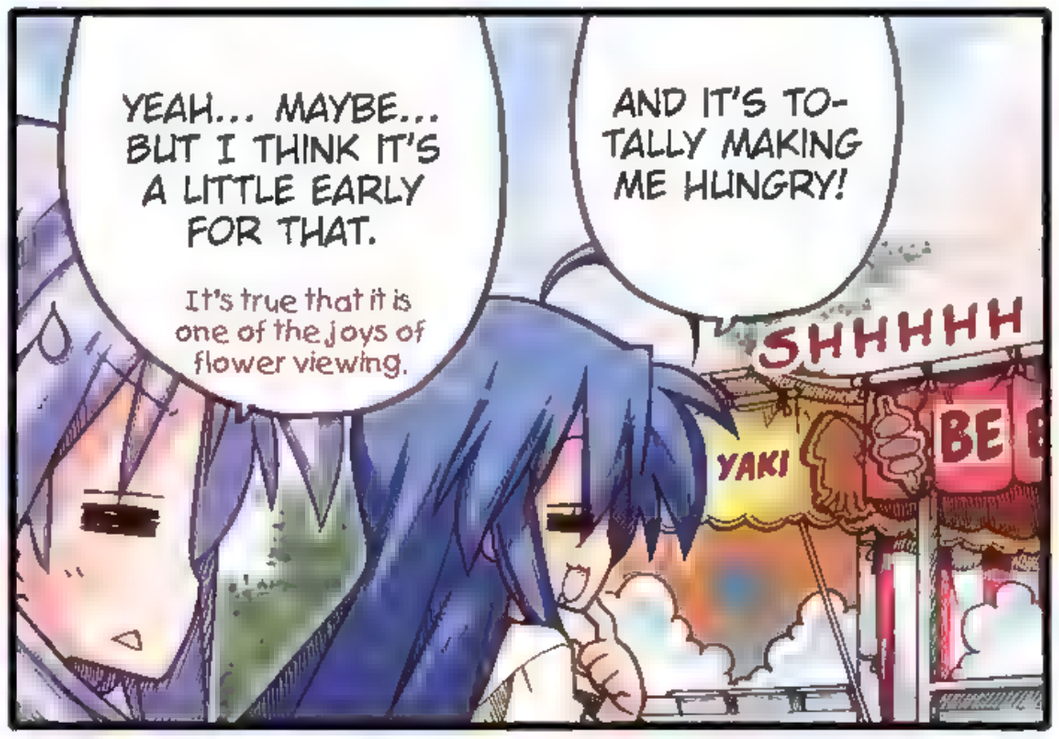
• Saitama Shinbun, April, 2010.

signs of spring



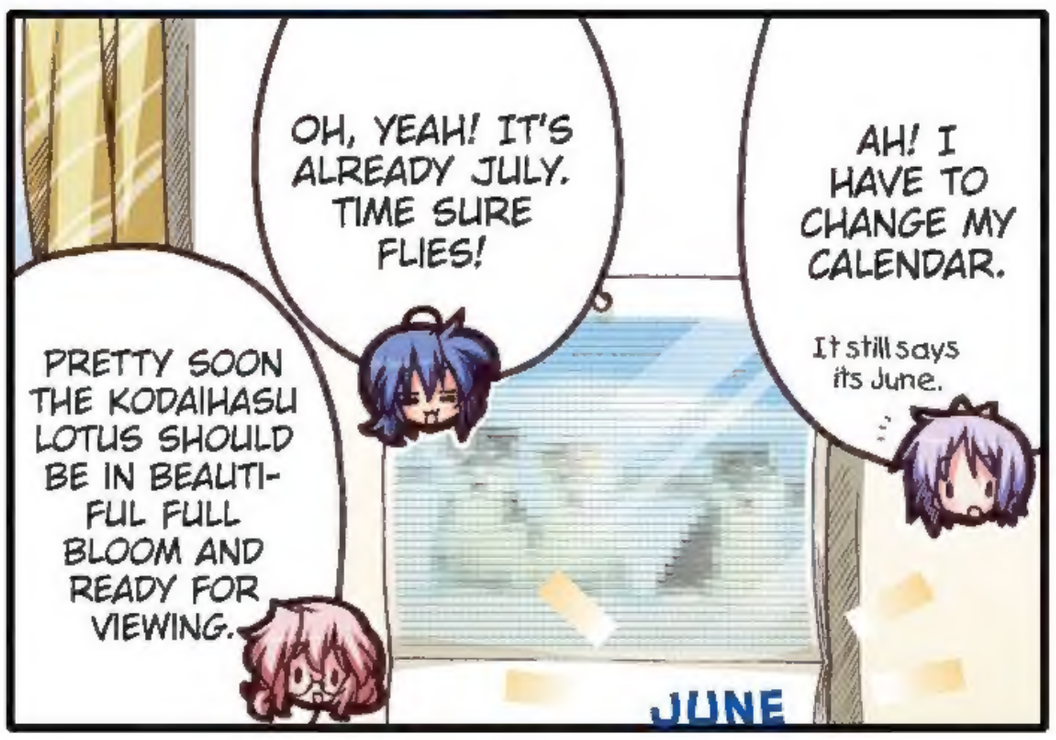

THIS PROVES WHY SAKURA BLOSSOMS ARE THE "SELLING POINT" OF THE GONGENDO EMBANKMENT!
WOW! THE PINK OF THE SAKURA CHERRY BLOSSOMS AND THE YELLOW OF RAPE FLOWERS ARE SO BEAUTIFUL!
Add in the aqua-color of the sky and the greens of the lawns

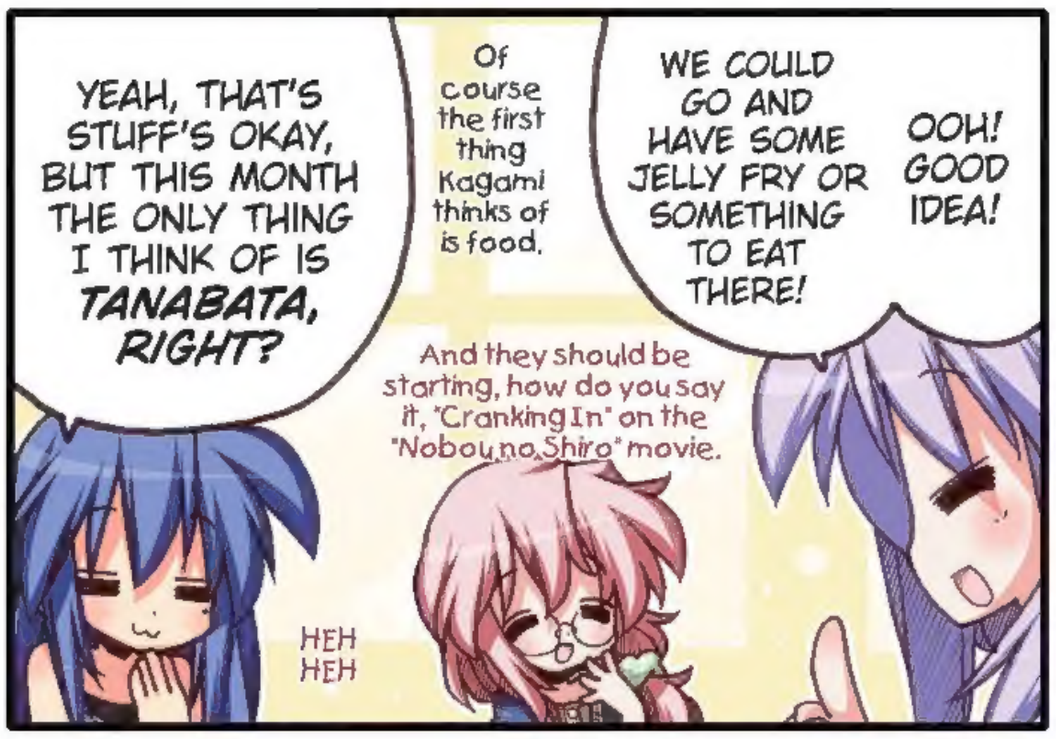

YOU KNOW, THAT'S TRUE! IT REALLY DOES SMELL GREAT AROUND HERE!
IT'S NOT JUST A FEAST FOR THE EYES, BUT A TREAT FOR THE NOSE AS WELL!
The rape flowers...
THERE'S SUCH A WONDER-FUL FRA-GRANCE...
You truly feel it is Spring here.
SNIFF SNIFF


YEAH... MAYBE... BUT I THINK IT'S A LITTLE EARLY FOR THAT.
It's true that it is one of the joys of flower viewing.
AND IT'S TO-TALLY MAKING ME HUNGRY!
SHHHHH
YAKI

• Saitama Shinbun, April, 2010.

mid-summer santa


OH, YEAH! IT'S ALREADY JULY. TIME SURE FLIES!
AH! I HAVE TO CHANGE MY CALENDAR.
It still says its June.
PRETTY SOON THE KODAIHASU LOTUS SHOULD BE IN BEAUTIFUL FULL BLOOM AND READY FOR VIEWING.
JUNE

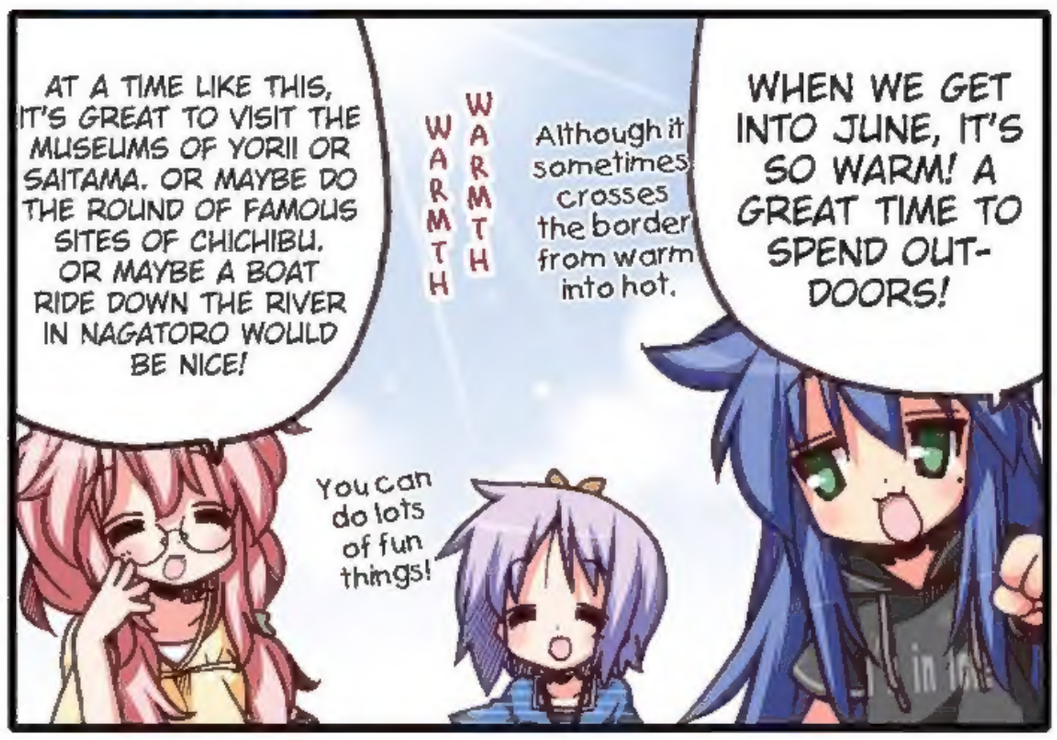

YEAH, THAT'S STUFF'S OKAY, BUT THIS MONTH THE ONLY THING I THINK OF IS TANABATA, RIGHT?
Of course the first thing Kagami thinks of is food.
WE COULD GO AND HAVE SOME JELLY FRY OR SOMETHING TO EAT THERE!
OOH! GOOD IDEA!
And they should be starting, how do you say it, "Cranking In" on the "Nobou no Shiro" movie.
HEH HEH

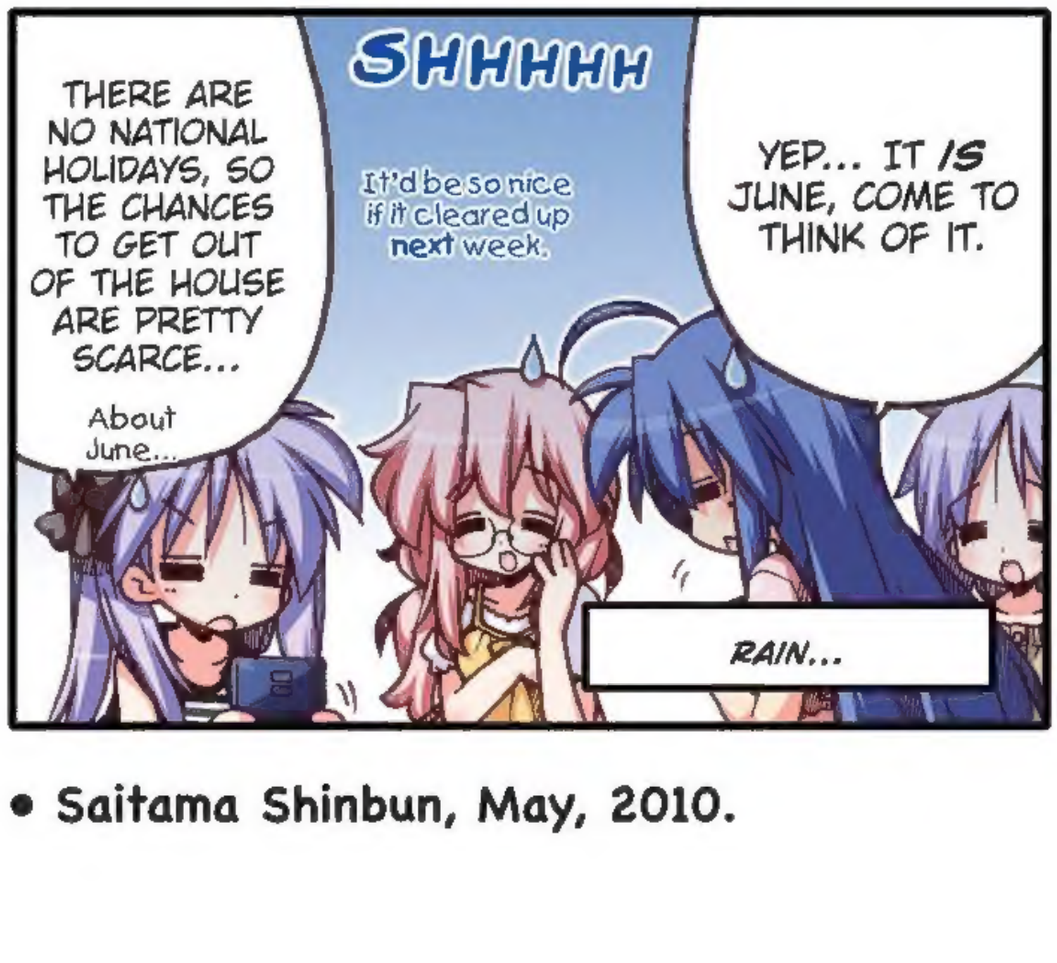
AH HA HA! BUT SINCE YOU GUYS WERE BORN ON TANABATA, IT MIGHT HAVE MADE LIFE EASIER FOR YOUR PARENTS.
Y-YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT US! WE'RE NOT AT AN AGE WHERE WE WANT TO CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS ANYMORE.
Ah ha ha... But I wouldn't mind if you did...
?
BLUSH

LET ME BREAK THIS TO YOU GENTLY. THOSE STRIPS ARE NOT THE PLACE WHERE YOU WRITE YOUR BIRTHDAY WISH LIST.
No guessing on presents.
WELL, SURE! THE FESTIVAL ITSELF TOLD YOUR PARENTS WHAT YOU WANTED!!
You write it on the paper strips.
Never in my life have I written I want XXX for my birthday.

• Saitama Shinbun, June, 2010.

word play


AT A TIME LIKE THIS, IT'S GREAT TO VISIT THE MUSEUMS OF YORII OR SAITAMA. OR MAYBE DO THE ROUND OF FAMOUS SITES OF CHICHIBU. OR MAYBE A BOAT RIDE DOWN THE RIVER IN NAGATORO WOULD BE NICE!
WARMTH
WARMTH
Although it sometimes crosses the border from warm into hot.
WHEN WE GET INTO JUNE, IT'S SO WARM! A GREAT TIME TO SPEND OUTDOORS!
You can do lots of fun things!


THERE ARE NO NATIONAL HOLIDAYS, SO THE CHANCES TO GET OUT OF THE HOUSE ARE PRETTY SCARCE...
About June...
SHHHHH
It'd be so nice if it cleared up next week.
YEP... IT IS JUNE, COME TO THINK OF IT.
RAIN...

• Saitama Shinbun, May, 2010.

the main event

AH, AUGUST. I ALWAYS FORGET UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE, HUH?
AHH, IT'S GOING TO BE SEP-TEMBER SOON! SCHOOL'S ABOUT TO START!
I'm jealous of you guys since you have a little longer for vacation.

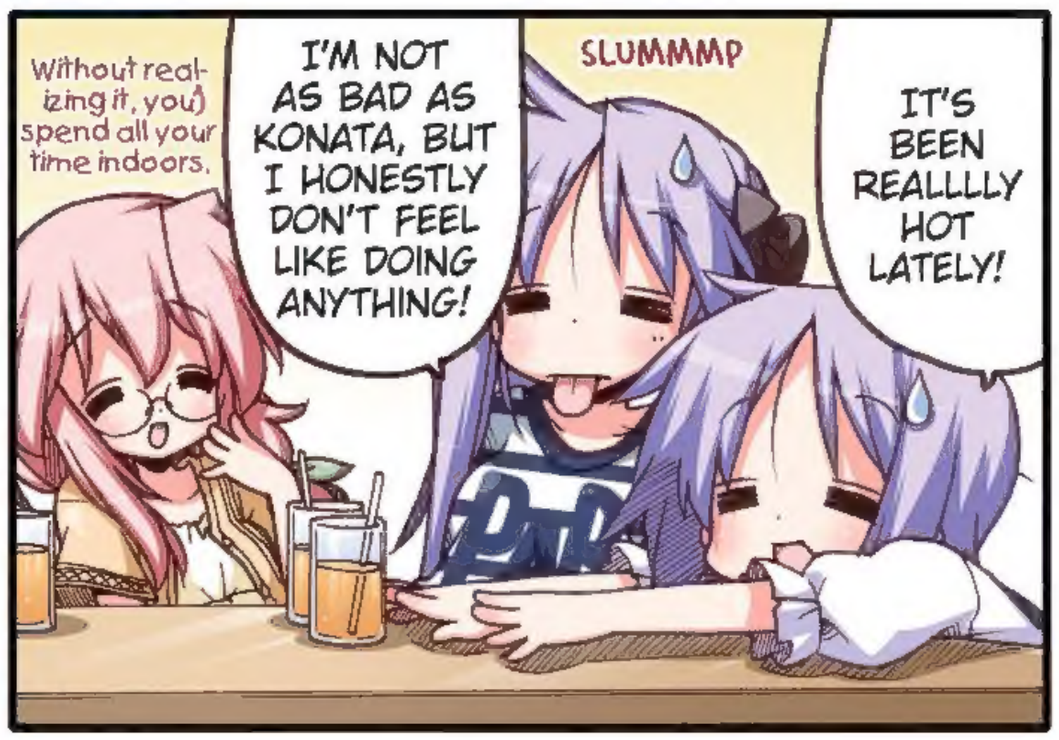
OH, THE "HAJISAI" FESTIVAL? SO YOU'RE GOING TO HIT EVERY FESTIVAL EXCEPT THE ONE AT YOUR ANCESTRAL HOME AS ALWAYS, HUH?
SPEAKING OF SEPTEMBER, YOU GUYS ARE HAVING A FESTIVAL AT YOUR SHRINE ON THE 5TH, RIGHT, KAGAMI?
Come to mention it...

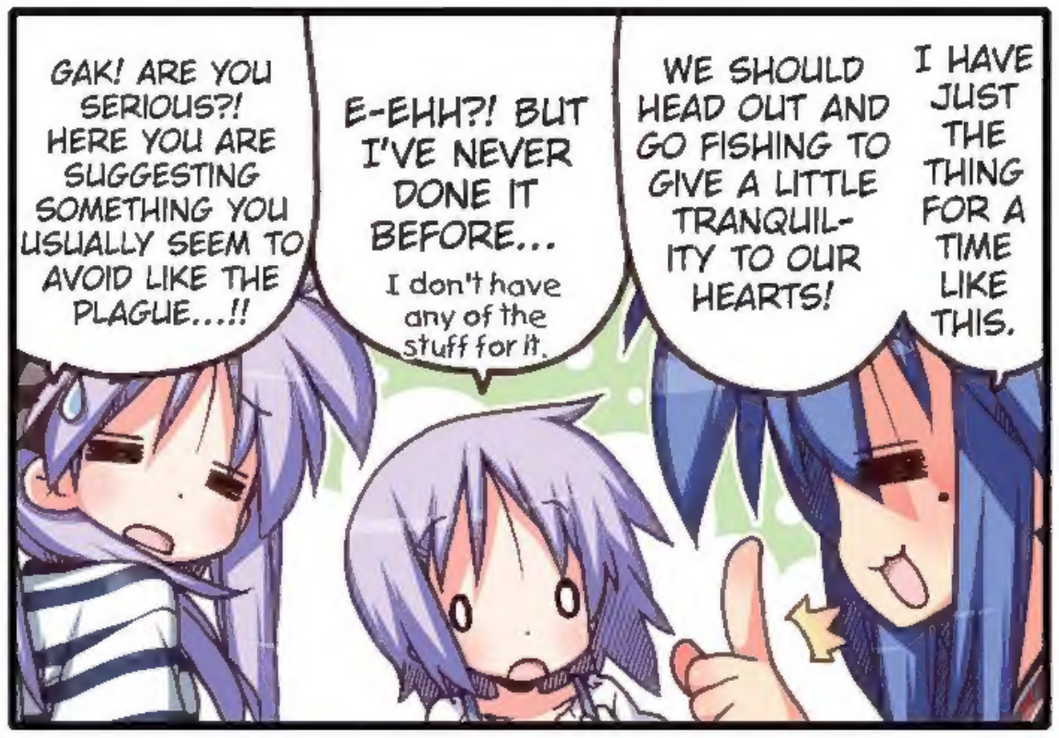
WELL, IT'S THANKS TO OUR GREAT PORTABLE, SHOULDER-CARRIED SHRINE. A HUGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WANT TO BE CARRIERS.
EVERY YEAR, THERE ARE MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ATTENDING. I SUPPOSE YOUR REPUTATION IS SPREADING.

LET'S JUST BE PRECISE HERE! HAJISAI IS A NORMAL CARRIED-SHRINE FESTIVAL, GOT IT?
Don't say things that give the people who don't know the wrong idea!
DOOOM
TRUE, TRUE! AFTER ALL, IT IS THE KIND OF THING THAT COULD BE SENT TO THE SHANGHAI WORLD'S FAIR, RIGHT?
Although it is a very nice portable shrine.

• Saitama Shinbun, July, 2010.

point


Without realizing it, you spend all your time indoors.
I'M NOT AS BAD AS KONATA, BUT I HONESTLY DON'T FEEL LIKE DOING ANYTHING!
SLUMMMP
IT'S BEEN REALLLLY HOT LATELY!


GAK! ARE YOU SERIOUS?! HERE YOU ARE SUGGESTING SOMETHING YOU USUALLY SEEM TO AVOID LIKE THE PLAGUE...!!
E-EHH?! BUT I'VE NEVER DONE IT BEFORE...
I don't have any of the stuff for it.
WE SHOULD HEAD OUT AND GO FISHING TO GIVE A LITTLE TRANQUIL-ITY TO OUR HEARTS!
I HAVE JUST THE THING FOR A TIME LIKE THIS.

JUST IN CASE, I SHOULD DO SOME RESEARCH ON HEAT STROKE AND HEAT EX-HAUSTION.
MAYBE THEY'D BE WILLING TO RENT US POLES AND STUFF AT A PLACE LIKE THAT?
BUT IT'S TRUE THAT SAITAMA HAS A FISHING RIVER OR A TOLL-FISHING SPOT IN ALMOST EVERY DISTRICT. AND MOUNTAIN-STREAM FISHING SOUNDS LIKE IT'D BE A COOL PAST-TIME.

They're really full of energy, huh?
I FEEL LIKE I'VE BEEN HAULED IN A BIG CATCH...!!!
ARE THEY REALLY THAT SUGGESTIBLE, EVEN WHEN I RECOMMEND FISHING AS A JOKE...?!
We're actually going fishing?

• Saitama Shinbun, July, 2010.

• Saitama Shinbun, September, 2010.

• Illustration for use by the Ota ☆ Star Fair, May, 2009.